

BIBLE NEWS: ESTHER, PART ONE

Clubhouse Theater presents the story of Esther. Who is she in the Bible and why is she so important?

Let's Get Started

Episode Theme: Courage in obedience

1. <u>Esther 5:1</u> says, "On the third day Esther put on her royal robes and stood in the inner court of the palace, in front of the king's hall. The king was sitting on his royal throne in the hall, facing the entrance." Think about how much bravery Esther needed to have in order to approach the king. She knew she could have been killed, and yet she was brave. What comfort does this give you? What challenges does it bring you?

2. <u>Deuteronomy 31:6</u> and many Bible verses begin by saying, "Be strong and courageous..." God wants us to be brave, but he doesn't leave us to do it alone. The verse ends with "the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you." God is with you wherever you go. Think about how God is with you as you listen to this episode.

Memory Verse

¹ Three days later, Esther dressed in her royal robes and went to the inner court of the palace in front of the throne. The king was sitting there, facing the open doorway. **Esther 5:1**

After You Listen

In this episode, Liz and the gang tell the story of Esther. Esther needs to be brave and stand up for her people, even when it's dangerous. Queen Esther had courage when she went to see the king. She knew that if the king was in a bad mood and didn't want to see her, he could have her put to death. She also knew she had to ask the king to change his mind ... can you imagine how much courage that took? She needed to ask the king to not kill all of the Jews (herself included!), even though he'd already promised to do so.

She admitted she was scared to go see the king. She asked her cousin to have all of the Jews fast and pray for her, so she wasn't alone. Then, she just did it. She knew, whatever happened to her, that going to see the king was the right thing to do. It was what God wanted her to do.

Do you need more courage in your life? If so, have someone you trust pray for you. Pray and ask God to give you courage. Trust in God's strength, and experience the thrill of courage!

Want to dig deeper and explore what scripture says about courage? Check out <u>Psalm 27:1</u>, <u>Isaiah 41:13</u> and <u>2 Timothy 1:7</u>.

Challenge

Regardless of where you are, God wants you to be courageous for him. For many of the hardest things God asks you to do, it takes 15 seconds of bravery—the bravery needed to introduce yourself to someone, the bravery needed to ask someone to stop, the bravery needed to get started on a difficult task. Pick one time that you need 15 seconds of bravery. Ask for God's help both to see the task that needs to be done, and the

bravery needed to do it. Talk to someone after you have done your brave act.

Take the Episode Quiz

Question 1: What was the name of the king in this story?

Answer: King Xerxes.

Question 2: Who was Mordecai?

Answer: Esther's uncle.

Question 3: What did Haman want to do to Mordecai?

Answer: Hang him from a gallows.

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