

ESTHER GETS READY

Timeless Truth: By showing faith, God can change the hearts of rulers.

Bible Basis: Esther 1–9

Key Verse: Don't eat or drink anything for three days. ... I and my attendants will fast just as you do. Then I'll go to the king. —Esther 4:16 NIV

Resource: *The Story for Little Ones*, Chapter 20: "Esther Gets Ready"

PARENT TIPS

Read chapter 20 in *The Story for Little Ones* several times this week and talk about the key point. Reading the story several times will help your preschooler to remember it. Use the Table Talk questions to talk about the lesson. Use the questions anytime throughout the week, not just at the table. The Living Faith activity is designed to help your child experience the Bible lesson through acting it out. The Extra Mile ideas give you more ways to help your child remember the lesson.

GET THE POINT

Esther gets her heart ready for a difficult job. God helps me when things are difficult.

TABLE TALK

- **Who was Esther?** (*Esther was a Jewish girl who was made a queen.*)
- **What did she get ready to do?** (*To tell the king to save her and her people*)
- **What hard things might you have to do?**
- **Who can help you?**

LIVING FAITH

Young children love to pretend to be kings and queens. Have your family act out this week's Bible story using your own words or as you read chapter 20 from *The Story for Little Ones*. Use crowns, play necklaces, and anything sparkly for your costumes. You can make crowns using construction paper. A blanket or sheet can make a nice king's robe. Play food can make a nice banquet or have dinner or a snack for your banquet. Let your child experience the Bible story by playing different roles.

EXTRA MILE

Talk about the different things you do to get ready to go to church, to go to bed, to go to school, to eat dinner, or to go on vacation.

In this week's story, Esther invited the king and Haman to a feast. Have a special meal this week, making some of your family's favorite foods.

Discuss the different jobs each person in your family does. These jobs can be simple chores. Talk about the hard job that Esther had to do.

Use these motions to help your child remember the Bible point.

God *(Point up.)*

Helps me *(Point to yourself.)*

When it's hard. *(Pretend to push something away that is difficult.)*