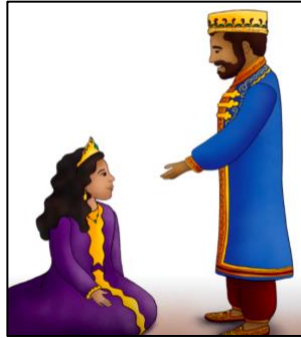


Video:  
[biblestoriesonline.com/stories/Esther-and-Mordecai-Follow-Gods-Timing](http://biblestoriesonline.com/stories/Esther-and-Mordecai-Follow-Gods-Timing)



**Lesson #14: ESTHER & MORDECAI SAVE GOD’S PEOPLE (ESTHER 5-10)**



The Bible says that Mordecai asked all of God’s Children in the city of Susa to fast and pray for Esther. She would soon go before the king without being invited. If King Xerxes didn’t extend his scepter to her, she would die!

On the 3rd day of fasting, Esther knew it was time. She had all of God’s Family behind her (in their prayers and fasting). Dressed in her best royal gown, she entered the king’s throne room. When King Xerxes saw Queen Esther coming toward him, he looked surprised. He had not called for Esther. The king held out his scepter to Esther.



“What can I do for you, Queen Esther? You can have up to half of all my treasures! I want to do something special for you!”



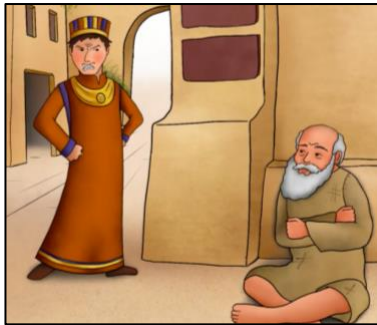
Esther was glad. Again, God had given her favor with the king. But Esther was also very wise. She knew she needed to wait for just the right time to tell the king what she wanted. And this moment wasn’t quite the right time.

Esther said, “I would like you and Haman to come and eat a big feast I’ll make for you!”

Esther prepared the fanciest dinner you’ve ever seen! And the king and Haman really enjoyed it. Then the king asked Esther again, “What can I do for you, Queen Esther? Anything! Pick something wonderful from all my treasures.”



Esther answered, “Please, come again tomorrow for another feast, and then I will tell you.” The king agreed.



Haman left the fancy dinner feeling proud. Then he saw... Mordecai. Even though Mordecai knew that Haman planned to kill him. Mordecai did not rise, or bow. And this made Haman angry!

When Haman got home, “Look at me. I am a great man in the king’s court! I was the only one invited to dine with the king and queen, and I’m invited again tomorrow! But that Mordecai is still around!”

Haman’s family and friends had an idea. They told Haman, “First thing in the morning just go and tell the king that Mordecai needs to die — today.” That sounded like a good idea to Haman, so off to bed he went.

But that night, the king was having a hard time sleeping. So, he asked if someone could read to him from the book of all the things that had happened while he was king.

The servant read, “On this day a man named Mordecai saved the king from 2 soldiers who were plotting to kill the king...”



At that, the king sat up in bed. “Hey! Did this guy Mordecai ever receive any honor for how he saved my life?” The servant said, “No, sir. Nothing was done for him.”



By this time, it was early in the morning. “Who is in the court to advise me about this?” the king asked.

“Uhhh, Haman’s in the court.” (We know why Haman is there early, don’t we? He’d come to ask the king about killing Mordecai.)

The King said, “Haman, there is a man I wish to do something really special for. What can I do for him?”

Haman was so prideful, he assumed HE was the special man. He said, “O King, you should have this man ride your best horse... and wear your royal robes... and he should be led around the town with someone shouting, “This is the man the king wants to honor!”



“That’s a great idea! Thanks, Haman,” the king said. “Now go. Do all that good stuff today for Mordecai.” Haman was stunned!





Haman was so mad! But he had no choice except to honor Mordecai — ALL DAY! So off he went... and up on the horse Mordecai went. Haman shouted, “This is the man the king wants to honor!” “This is the man the king wants to honor!” “This is the man the king wants to honor!”

That night, Esther prepared another feast for the king and Haman. As you can imagine, this time Haman arrived grumpy. Again, the king asked Esther, “Please! Tell me what can I do for you?”



Esther had been very wise to wait to tell the king what she wanted. Because now, the king knew all about the goodness of Mordecai, didn't he? Esther dropped to her knees and begged the king, “Please, O king, have mercy on me and allow me to live, along with Mordecai and all of my people! For my people and I will be killed because of a bad law!”

The king was shocked! “Who has dared to write such a law!” “That would be — Haman!” said Esther. The king was mad at Haman for making that bad rule! That very day Haman's life was ended.



After that, the king got a new friend and counselor! Can you guess who? Mordecai. Mordecai got to live in Haman's big house and got to wear the king's robe and ring. The king wrote a new special rule about people who loved the 1 true God.

Jews were now able to enjoy freedom and safety in the land. They would live in this foreign land for 70 years, but God always took care of them.



God works out His plan in amazing ways! **He may use YOU to work out His plan too. Will you be brave like Esther?**

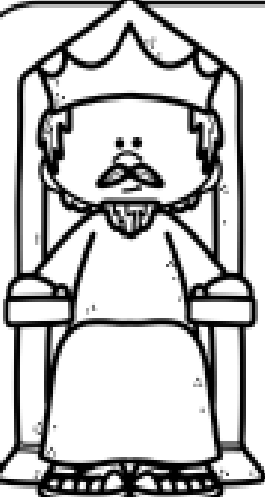


PRIMARY GRADES ACTIVITY  
Color the Picture of Queen Esther's Fancy Dinner



UPPER GRADES ACTIVITY

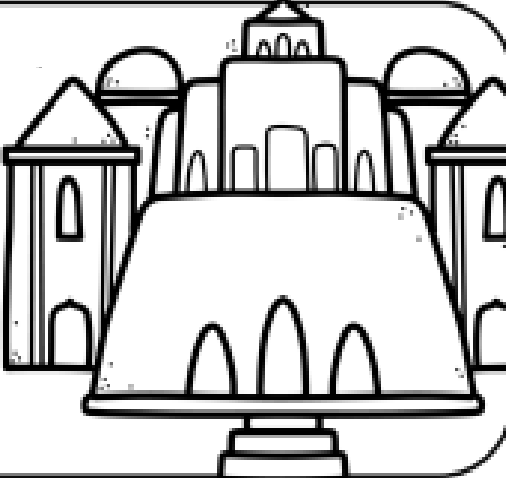
Complete the Graphic Organizer about QUEEN ESTHER



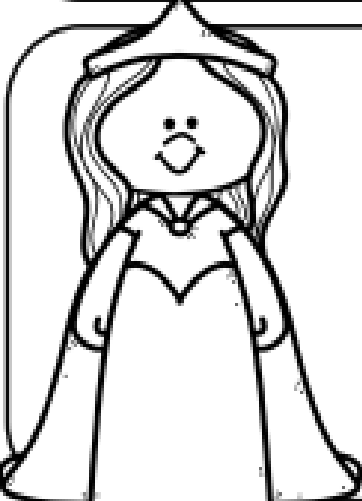
Write the King's name  
\_\_\_\_\_

Tell something he did in our Bible lesson:  
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Read Esther 4:14 in your Bible.  
Finish the sentence:  
"It could be that you were made Queen for ..."



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What lessons did you learn from the story of Queen Esther?

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