



THE BIG IDEA | God can help me overcome difficulty.

SCRIPTURE | Esther 2, 4

Today we are going to learn about a woman who overcame difficulty to help her people. Hopefully, through her story, you'll discover how God can use you to overcome difficulty, too!

Look up the scripture and read the story - there is an age-appropriate summary here.

- King Xerxes wanted to find a queen. He sent his men out to help him find a queen. The women his men gathered ate good food and took a lot of time to get ready to meet the king. Esther was one of these women.
- Then, it was Esther's turn to meet the king. Everyone who saw Esther thought she was beautiful. The king liked Esther so much that he chose her to be his queen.
- Esther was not like the king. She was from a different kind of people. Esther was a Jewish woman, and the king was not a Jewish man. One of the king's men tricked him into making a law that was mean to all of the Jewish people.
- When Esther and her cousin heard about the law, they decided that everyone should pray to God for help. The Jewish people prayed for three days. One, two, three.
- I am so glad Esther was brave when she heard about the new law that could hurt her people. I am glad Esther knew she could trust God. God can help me overcome difficulty.

ACTIVITY | Difficult Path

INSTRUCTIONS: *Use masking tape to make a zigzag path across the room. Challenge your kid to follow you along the path while they keep their steps on the tape line. Offer your hand to hold if they want help.*

That game was tricky. It helped to hold someone's hand when it was difficult. Just like I helped you, God helps us overcome difficulty.

Esther was brave because she knew God would take care of the Jewish people. God helps us overcome difficulty.

DISCUSSION

- **Who was the queen?** That's right, it was Esther.
- **What was the bad news Esther heard?** Queen Esther heard that the king made a law that would mean the Jewish people – her people – were in danger!
- **Do you remember what Esther did for three days?** Esther and the people prayed.

PRAYER

God, thank you for helping us overcome difficulty. Help us to be brave like Esther was when things get tough!

MEMORY VERSE | Isaiah 41:10 (NIV)

