

## READ IT

This Rotation's Bible story is  
**Queen Esther**

from Esther 2:5-18; 3:1-6; 8:1-17.

### God uses people in all kinds of places.

Ask each other what you remember about:

- Esther
- Mordecai
- Haman
- Jews
- Ring

The book of Esther is one of two books in the Bible with a female name. The other is Ruth. Both books are found in the Old Testament.

### Read the whole story together in the Bible!

*Spark Story Bible* pages 152-157

*Spark Bible* pages 535, 536, and 539-540

### Family Prayer

**Thank you, God, for brave heroes like Esther. Help us learn to stand up and speak our faith where needed. AMEN.**

## TALK ABOUT IT



### Family Conversations

- 1 What is your favorite family story?
- 2 What stories does our family tell about some of our ancestors who lived long before us?
- 3 As a family, how can we celebrate God's love and care?
- 4 There are still places in the world where groups of people are being hurt by people in power. What can we do for those people?



### Eye Spark

When you see a ring, say, "Esther told the king, and Mordecai used his ring."



### Ear Spark

Listen for people celebrating this week. Create a celebration sound of your own to use in response.

## LIVE IT

### For families to do together

Design a family seal or stamp like the king used at the end of the Esther story. You can draw, carve, or print one, or find an existing one that seems to fit your family. What kinds of letters will you send out with your family's stamp?

### For younger kids

Stand up for someone this week. When you see something happening that is not right, stand up and say so!

### For older kids

Jewish people today still remember the story of Esther. On the internet or at the library, learn about the Jewish celebration of Purim. What parts of the event do you recognize?

## TRY IT

### Art

Spread “I love you’s” around your home. Be creative with your delivery. Write a poem on a pillow with fabric markers. Draw on a bathroom mirror or bedroom window with window markers. Roll notes into pockets or drawers. Letters can be powerful. Mordecai’s definitely was!

### Computer Lab

Do some research together to find out how different religions pray. Try out a few. Talk about how God accepts every type of prayer, even those that are different from our own. Just like God accepted Esther and her people even though they were different!

### Creative Drama

Add another chapter to Esther’s story. Imagine another sneaky thing Haman would like to try. What would Haman tell the king? How would God use Queen Esther to help? What would the king say? What would Mordecai do? Write a few lines for each character and act out the scene!

### Video

Watch a movie with your family that has a princess or a queen as the heroine. Talk about what the characters did or what they were like. Were the women brave? How did they make things change or happen? Who helped? Women can be strong leaders!

### Bible Skills and Games

God is always helping us. Gather with your family beside a very heavy piece of furniture. Try moving the furniture by yourself. Then have your whole family help. It’s a lot easier when everyone helps. When God helps us out, we can accomplish great things.

### Cooking

Research a meal from a different culture. Buy the special ingredients and cook together. Talk about how the tastes and smells are different. Decide what you like and don’t like about the new food. Remember that Esther’s people were different, but God loved them.

### Music

Everybody’s family came from somewhere, and every culture has music unique to itself. Explore your family’s heritage and look for folksongs unique to your cultural background. Learn them and sing together! If you get stuck, get in touch with another family member who might be able to help.

### Science

God loves everyone! See what your family members have in common with each other. Who can roll their tongue? Who crosses their arms the same? Who has a widow’s peak? What’s the same and different among your family?