**The Bible wk 11**

**Esther**

**Welcome to kids church – introduce junior and freedom riders leaders for the morning.**

**Celebrate November Birthdays.**

**Intro**

We are in a series called the Bible adventure! We are learning about what the bible is and will be exploring the wonderful things inside! We are exploring books of the bible like the books of Esther where we learn about Queen Esther.

**Juniors & Seniors**

**Introduction**

Today we are looking at an ancient story from the old testament about someone called Esther. Esther was a beautiful young lady who lived with her cousin Mordecai because her parents had died. Esther was taken to be queen by King Xerxes who was not a very nice person. Esther loved God and belonged to his special people the Jews but did not tell the King this because it could be dangerous as King Xerxes did not love God.

*Do you have any cousins?*

Well Mordecai was a caring cousin and helped Esther whenever he could. He loved God and refused to bow down and worship the leaders of his land when they asked him to because he would only worship God. This got him and all the Jewish people in lots of trouble but this time Esther would help Mordecai. Let’s listen to a story about Esther now.

**Snack and story**Read ‘The Brave and Beautiful Queen’ from Bible for Kids app or story of Esther from a favourite book.

**Activity - Water prayer**

**Intro to activity**Esther was brave to come to the King because she hadn’t even been invited. She could have got in big trouble!  
*Have you had to do something brave lately because it was the right thing to do?*  
Mordecai cared for Esther after her family had died and taught her to love and obey God no matter what, even in a country where it was dangerous to love God.  
*Do you have people in your family that you look out for?* *How do you show them you care?* ***Extra Q for seniors:*** *How can you encourage their faith?*(At this point the leader can share about the ways their faith has been nurtured by others)

**Closing prayer**Thankyou God that you look after your family. Thank you for the people in our lives who care for us and the people you have given us to care for. Help us to be brave and caring, just like Esther. Amen.

We are going to do something now that reminds us that God gives us strength to be brave and caring when we ask Him.

**Activity here:** [**http://flamecreativekids.blogspot.com.au/2015/09/esther-finding-courage-prayer-activity.html**](http://flamecreativekids.blogspot.com.au/2015/09/esther-finding-courage-prayer-activity.html)

**Extra Game for Seniors:** SeatedBalloon Volleyball.

**Extra: Colouring pages for free play time.**

[**http://www.chuckbutt.com/2017/05/queen-esther-coloring-pages/downloads-online-coloring-page-queen-esther-coloring-pages-29-with-additional-coloring-pages-for-adults-with-queen-esther-coloring-pages/**](http://www.chuckbutt.com/2017/05/queen-esther-coloring-pages/downloads-online-coloring-page-queen-esther-coloring-pages-29-with-additional-coloring-pages-for-adults-with-queen-esther-coloring-pages/)