

## Grade 3—Unit 7

# A King and a Queen

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During the rule of young King Josiah, the Book of the Law was found and Josiah led the people back to obedience to God. Josiah destroyed all pagan worship, rebuilt the temple, and continued to lead all of Judah to worship God.

The Book of Esther explains the origins of the Feast of Purim. Esther, a young Jewish orphan, had risen from anonymity to queenhood. When proud Haman plotted to annihilate the Jews, Esther acted with courage to rescue her people.

### LESSONS

1. Josiah, A Faithful King
2. Esther Saves Her People

# Unit 7: A King and a Queen

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## Unit Information

### SUMMARY

Josiah's reign is viewed as a time of religious reformation in Judah's history. The dramatic changes began with the restoration of the temple and were given new direction and incentive upon the discovery of the Book of the Law. Josiah led the people away from idol worship and back to obedience to God.

Esther's courage, careful planning, patience, and loyalty saved the Jewish people from complete destruction. She won respect, both in the courts of King Xerxes and among the Jewish people who were scattered across the empire.

### KEY BIBLE TEXTS

2 Kings 22, 23

2 Chronicles 34, 35

Book of Esther

**Psalm 119:33-34 (memory verses)**

**Deuteronomy 11:18 (memory verse)**

**Psalm 12:6 (memory verse)**

**Psalm 19:7-11 (memory verse)**

**Psalm 27:1-2, 5 (memory verses)**

**Psalm 67:1-5 (main memory passage)**

### BIBLICAL BACKGROUND

#### A Faithful King

The Southern Kingdom of Judah was divided from Israel after King Solomon's death, and the division lasted until the Babylonian exile. A few good kings and a number of wicked kings reigned during this time span.

King Josiah became ruler of Judah when he was eight years old. The religious reformation that occurred during Josiah's reign began with the renovation of the temple. While rebuilding the temple, the book of God's law was found. When Josiah heard the reading of this book, he was horrified. He realized that the nation had turned from God and was living in sin. He asked his advisors to take the book to a prophet, to find out what God wanted them to do. The advisors consulted the prophetess, Huldah. She sent a message of doom: because the people had turned from God and worshiped idols, God would bring disaster to them and the land. God assured Josiah that these events would take place following his death, because the king had recognized the idolatry and wickedness and been obedient to God.

While Josiah reigned, the country was stripped of its idols, and he led the people to worship the Lord God.

#### The Story of Esther

The story of Esther takes place between 483-471 B.C. in Persia, a land ruled by King Xerxes (Ahasuerus). Esther's ancestors had been among the Jews exiled

from Jerusalem at an earlier time. Her cousin, Mordecai, one of the king's scribes, had raised her. Mordecai worked inside the palace courtyard.

King Xerxes' former queen, Vashti, was ousted from the palace because she refused to obey the king. A search was then made to find a beautiful young woman to be queen. Esther was brought to the palace, along with many other young women. Mordecai warned Esther to keep her Jewish identity a secret. Esther, along with the other women, was given extensive beauty treatments before being taken to the king. In Esther 2:17, the story unfolds: "Now the king was attracted to Esther more than to any of the other women, and she won his favor and approval more than any of the other virgins. So he set a royal crown on her head and made her queen."

When Mordecai refused to bow to Haman, the king's chief advisor, Haman decided that he would punish Mordecai and all other Jews. The king gave Haman permission to destroy this group of people who refused to pay homage to the king. Haman and the king's officials cast the *pur* (lot) to select the day and month in which to annihilate the Jewish population. They most likely threw dice in this case. The numbers that fell indicated the 13th day of the 12th month.

Mordecai begged Esther to approach the king and ask that her Jewish people be saved from death. Mordecai saw Esther's royal position as a part of God's providence.

Queen Esther feared for her life. Anyone who approached the king without being summoned was put to death, unless the king chose to extend his golden scepter. Esther, her attendants, Mordecai, and all the Jews of Susa began a three-day fast, during which they probably prayed much and ate no food.

Queen Esther courageously approached the king, who extended the golden scepter. With wit, she revealed Haman's cruel plan and her Jewish identity. The king issued a counter-edict that allowed the Jewish people to arm themselves against those who planned to kill them. Because of Esther's actions, the Jewish people of the Persian empire were saved from destruction.

## **Purim**

*Purim* is the Jewish festival celebrating the day Esther saved her people. The Hebrew word *purim* means to cast lots. Haman had cast lots to determine the best day to carry out his wicked plan to exterminate the Jews. Jewish people still celebrate Purim on the 14th day of the 12th Hebrew month, Adar, occurring in February or March.

The scroll or book of Esther is read on the eve of Purim, in the synagogue, and continued the next morning. Every time Haman's name is mentioned, the children stamp their feet and twirl noisemakers to drown out the sound of Haman's name.

Children and adults enjoy dressing up in costumes and masks. They participate in plays to retell the story of Esther. Parades, parties, and special meals are all a part of the celebration. A favorite food is a three-cornered pastry called *hamantaschen*. Gift-giving is also an important tradition. Children often dress in costumes to deliver gifts to others.

## **ESSENTIAL UNDERSTANDINGS**

- Josiah was a godly king.
- Josiah's reforms were a last attempt to encourage the people to worship God.
- Josiah was about the same age as a third-grader when he became king of Judah.
- God sometimes places us in special jobs or places so we can serve in a specific way.
- Esther's honesty was rewarded by the king.

## **WORSHIP**

### **Josiah**

1. The lesson on Josiah focuses on turning our hearts toward God as we learn to know and follow God's ways. To do that, we need to read and follow God's word daily. Each day, begin worship by reading a memory passage that encourages us to follow God's word.

2. To help students think about how we follow God's word, have them look at the recipes they wrote for Introducing the Lesson, page 188. What ingredients would they change and which ones would they leave the same, after studying the memory passages? Share recipes as a class and leave them at the worship center.

### **Esther**

Each morning in worship, highlight and review one of the Bible heroes who was afraid, yet responded in faith to a difficult task God gave him/her. Read a selection of each story from the Bible. Identify what the hero or the people they were leading feared, and how God took care of the problem. Following are several examples of Bible heroes and references:

- Exodus 14:10-14—Moses (afraid of dying)
- Joshua 8:1-2—Joshua (afraid of defeat at Ai)
- Judges 7:9-18—Gideon (afraid of losing against the Midianites)
- 1 Kings 19:1-5—Elijah (afraid Jezebel will kill him)

As a response to each story, and as a way to say thank you for God's saving power, sing or recite Psalm 67 (p. 183) after each story.

## **MEMORY PASSAGES**

This unit offers a main memory verse passage, plus several bonus passages to be used if desired. These passages are provided in large format on pages 183-, to be used as posters or overheads.

## **ASSESSING TEACHING / LEARNING**

- Activity sheets, writing activities, drawing projects, and discussions will provide opportunities to assess student understanding of Josiah's and Esther's stories.
- The symbols students draw for Josiah and Esther on their Faith Hero T-shirts may be used to assess their understanding of these heroes.



May God be gracious to us and  
bless us and make his face shine  
upon us, that your ways  
may be known on earth,  
your salvation among all nations.  
May the peoples praise you, O God;  
may all the peoples praise you.  
May the nations be glad and sing for  
joy, for you rule the peoples justly and  
guide the nations of the earth.  
May all the peoples praise you, O God;  
may all the peoples praise you.

Psalm 67:1-5



Teach me, O Lord,  
to follow your decrees;  
then I will keep them to the end.

Give me understanding,  
and I will keep your law  
and obey it with all my heart.

Psalm 119:33-34





Fix these words of mine  
in your hearts and minds.

Deuteronomy 11:18



And the words of the Lord  
are flawless, like silver refined  
in a furnace of clay,  
purified seven times.

Psalm 12:6

The law of the Lord is perfect,  
reviving the soul.  
The statutes of the Lord are trustworthy,  
making wise the simple.  
The precepts of the Lord are right,  
giving joy to the heart.  
The commands of the Lord are radiant,  
giving light to the eyes.  
The fear of the Lord is pure,  
enduring forever.  
The ordinances of the Lord are sure  
and altogether righteous.  
They are more precious than gold,  
than much pure gold; they are sweeter  
than honey, than honey from the comb.  
By them is your servant warned;  
in keeping them there is great reward.

Psalm 19:7-11

The Lord is my light and my  
salvation, whom shall I fear?  
The Lord is the stronghold of my life,  
of whom shall I be afraid?  
When evil men advance against me  
to devour my flesh, when  
my enemies and my foes attack me,  
they will stumble and fall.  
For in the day of trouble He will keep  
me safe in his dwelling; He will hide  
me in the shelter of His tabernacle  
and set me high upon a Rock.

Psalm 27:1-2, 5

# A King and a Queen

## LESSON 1: JOSIAH, A FAITHFUL KING

### Objective

Students will recognize how King Josiah served God by teaching the scriptures to the Israelite people.

### Key Concepts

- God speaks to us through the scriptures.
- King Josiah was obedient to God.
- Josiah led his people back to God.

**Texts:** 2 Kings 22:1-13

**Estimated Lesson Time:** 45 minutes

### Materials

- Bibles
- Recipe cards (index cards), pencils/pens
- Drawing paper, crayons/markers
- “Be the Leader” activity sheet (p. 190)
- “Remembering the Covenant” story (p. 191)
- For Extend the Lesson, option one: Hall of Faith cards, Faith Hero T-shirts, fabric crayons/markers
- For Extend the Lesson, option two: markers, gold foil gift wrap or metallic gold marker, star pattern (p. 192), gold or yellow paper

### Teacher Preparation

- Make copies of the “Be the Leader” activity sheet, one for each student.
- If using Extend the Lesson, option two, trace or copy star pattern on gold or yellow paper. Cut out the letters for “King Josiah” in gold gift wrap, or write the name with gold marker.

### INTRODUCING THE LESSON

**Recipes for obedience to God.** Have students write recipes for how to follow God’s word: *4 cups love, 3 cups prayer, 2 cups patience, 3 heaping tablespoons hope, etc.* Begin by listing ingredients and then describe how to make this happen. Use memory passages and Hall of Faith cards as resources. Decorate, if desired. Then spend some time sharing the recipes. Post the cards or put them in a special place in the room.

### LESSON STEPS

- 1. Read 2 Kings 22:1-13.** Have students read the account with a partner. Then, as a class, decide on the five main events in the story and write them on the board.
- 2. Draw pictures of the four main characters.** Hand out sheets of drawing paper and have students work on their own to draw the four characters, then

write their names and jobs beneath the pictures. *OR*, assign one character to each child. Post the pictures on the wall.

**3. “Be the Leader.”** Hand out copies of the activity sheet from page 190, for students to fill out, imagining what it would be like to be the main leader of the country.

**4. Remembering the covenant.** Read aloud the story from page 191, then discuss the following questions:

- What steps did Josiah take to help the people remain faithful to God?
- Based on how the Israelites have acted throughout history, do you think they will remain faithful to God? Why or why not?
- If you were living during the time of Josiah, how would Josiah’s reform have affected you?
- What changes would have been made in your home?
- How might you have felt?

### **EXTEND THE LESSON**

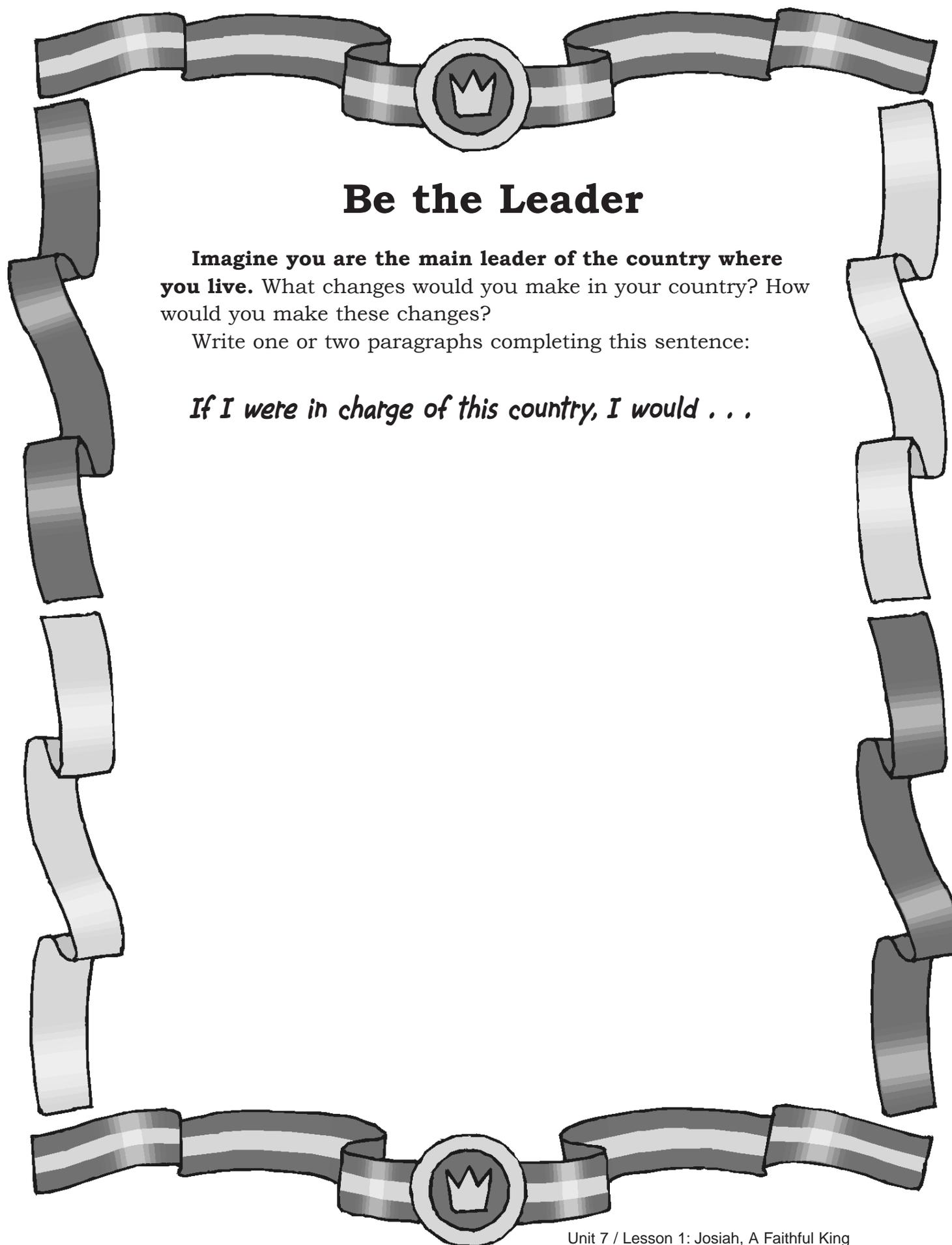
*(These activities will extend the lesson to longer than 45 minutes.)*

• **Work on Faith Hero T-shirts.** Have students explore Hall of Faith cards for ideas about decorating their T-shirts. They can write Josiah’s name and a symbol from his story on their T-shirts.

• **Make a star bulletin board.** Invite students to write five words that describe Josiah, then use these words to write two sentences about him. Give students a yellow or gold star and have them write their sentences around the outer edge. Display the stars on a bulletin board, with the title “King Josiah.” Cut letters for the name from gold foil gift wrap, *OR* write the name with a metallic gold marker.

• **Bible memory journal.** Have students add Psalm 67:1-5 to their journals. Discuss the verses and think about how they fit with what Josiah did. In what ways did Josiah help the people to praise God instead of false gods? How did Josiah help God’s ways to be known on earth?

• **Read more about Josiah.** As a class, find and read 2 Chronicles 35. Mention that 2 Chronicles 36 tells of Josiah’s death in a battle.



## Be the Leader

**Imagine you are the main leader of the country where you live.** What changes would you make in your country? How would you make these changes?

Write one or two paragraphs completing this sentence:

*If I were in charge of this country, I would . . .*

# Remembering the Covenant

King Josiah called together the leaders of Judah and Jerusalem and went with them to the temple. There they met all the people—rich and poor, young and old. As Josiah read aloud to them from the scroll, everyone listened with awe. Men, women, and children heard how the Lord wanted them to live. They also listened to what would happen if they disobeyed God’s commandments.

Josiah promised to obey the Lord and to live according to the commandments. The people agreed to do the same. The king told them to burn their idols on the rubbish heap in the Kidron Valley.

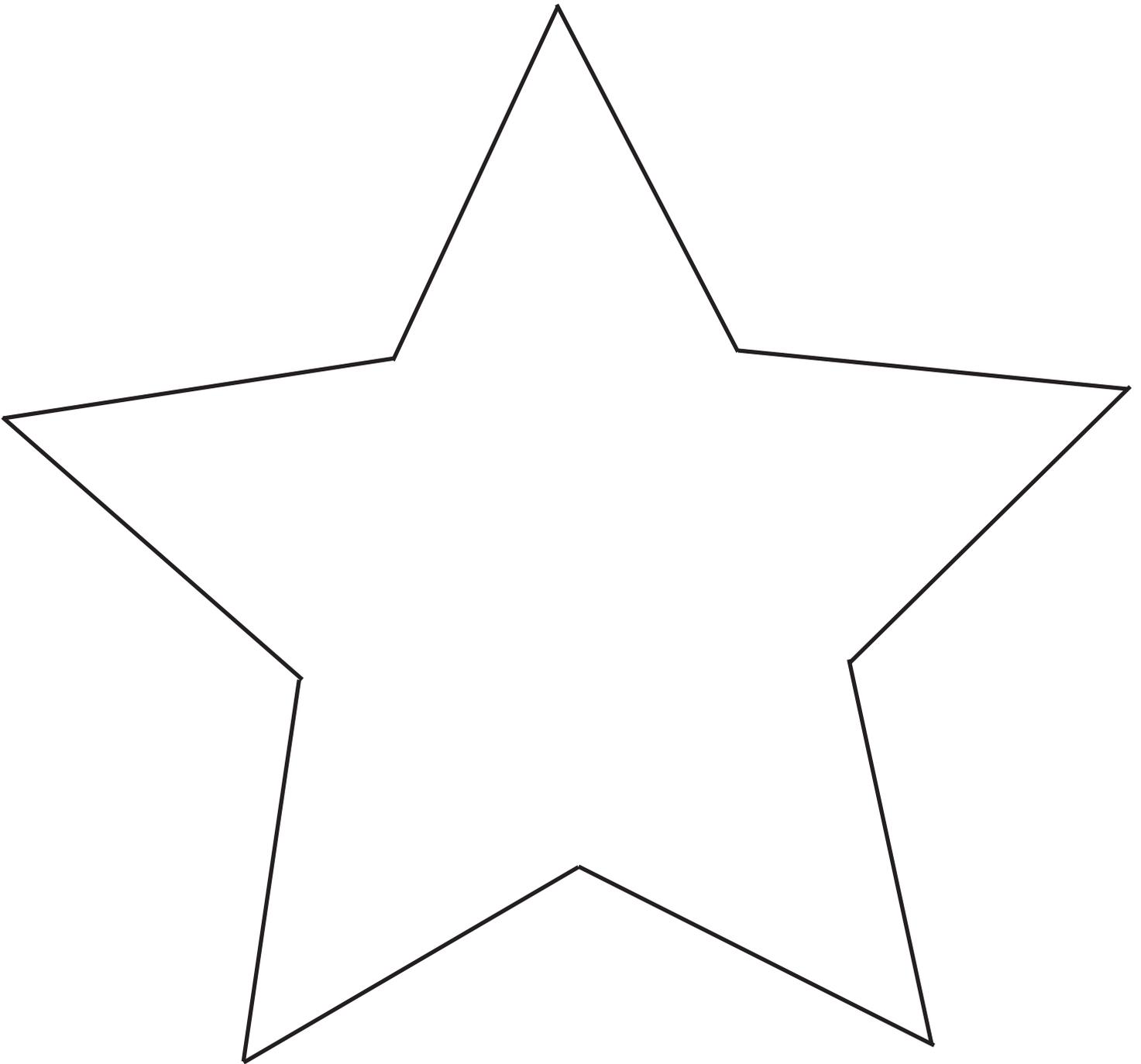
The people did as Josiah commanded. They stopped worshiping foreign gods and the stars of the zodiac. Josiah banished all fortune-tellers and outlawed the use of charms and magic in Judah. He destroyed all the pagan altars and idols that he found.

Three hundred years earlier, a prophet had told King Jeroboam of Israel that the altar of Bethel would be destroyed by a king named Josiah. Now these words came true. King Josiah went up to Bethel and demolished the temple. He pounded the great altar to dust, and made a bonfire with the idols and images of Asherah.

But Josiah didn’t stop there. He conquered the territory of Samaria (the old kingdom of Israel), demolished the pagan temples, and struck down the pagan priests in all the cities and towns. Then he ordered all holy places outside Jerusalem to be destroyed, because they tempted the people to worship idols. King Josiah told all the priests of the Lord who were scattered through the land to come and serve God at the temple in Jerusalem.



# Star Pattern



# A King and a Queen

## LESSON 2: ESTHER SAVES HER PEOPLE

### Objective

Students will learn how God worked through Esther to save the Jewish people.

### Key Concepts

- God worked through Esther to save her people from destruction.
- God provided for the Jewish people by putting Esther in the position of queen.
- God continues to care and provide for people today.
- The Festival of Purim is a joyous holiday celebrated by Jews around the world.

**Texts:** Book of Esther

**Estimated Lesson Time:** 45 minutes

### Materials

- Bibles
- Books: *The King of Prussia and a Peanut Butter Sandwich* by Alice Flemming, *God Comforts His People* by Eve B. MacMaster
- Chart paper
- For Extend the Lesson, option one: Hall of Faith cards, Faith Hero T-shirts, fabric crayons/markers
- For Extend the Lesson, option four: Unit Review (pp. 200-201)
- For Extend the Lesson, option five: *Jewish Days and Holidays* by Greer Fay Cashman, *Queen Esther* by Tomie dePaola, ingredients for *hamantaschen* (p. 196), supplies for noisemakers and scroll (p. 197), supplies for finger puppets (p. 198), “A Wicked, Wicked Man” (p. 199), “Sing, Sing, Praise and Sing” (old curriculum, p. 333)

### Teacher Preparation

- Be familiar with “The Story of Esther” in *God Comforts His People*.
- If using Extend the Lesson, option four, make copies of the Unit Review, one per student.
- If using Extend the Lesson, option five, study about the Festival of Purim and prepare for your own celebration. Make copies of the songs “A Wicked, Wicked Man” and “Sing, Sing, Praise and Sing,” one for each student.

### INTRODUCING THE LESSON

Read *The King of Prussia and a Peanut Butter Sandwich*. This book provides an example of God’s providence. Discuss:

- In what ways did the Mennonite leaders need to act courageously to help their people?
- What government decisions helped the Mennonites?
- What government decisions caused problems for the Mennonites?

## LESSON STEPS

**1. Tell “The Story of Esther”** from chapters 15-21 in *God Comforts His People*. (You will need to decide whether to take several days to read the chapters or to summarize the story in one day.) Make sure students understand that Esther lived in a different time period from King Josiah. She was living in Persia, where the Israelites had been taken captive. Esther is a faith hero who also obeyed God, even in difficult circumstances.

**2. Study the book of Esther.** Help students find the book in their Bibles, then have them work in pairs to answer the following questions (write them on the board or on chart paper):

- WHERE does the story take place?
- Write the names of the main CHARACTERS.
- What is the main PROBLEM?
- List the STEPS taken to solve the problem.
- List 6 SCENES from the story of Esther and place them in the correct order.

**3. Illustrate scenes from the story.** Invite students to share the six scenes they wrote down, listing each scene as it is mentioned. Assign each scene to a pair of students, to illustrate and write a caption. Display the scenes, in sequence, in a long frieze around the classroom, library, or hallway.

**4. Discuss** how God worked in the lives of the Jewish people in the story of Esther.

## EXTEND THE LESSON

*(These activities will extend the lesson to longer than 45 minutes.)*

• **Work on Faith Hero T-shirts.** Read and discuss the Hall of Faith card for Esther. Students may add her name and a symbol from her story on their Faith Hero T-shirts.

• **Make a web about Esther** on chart paper. What traits and characteristics of Esther gave her courage to follow her plan? *Examples: prayerful, intelligent, courageous, loyal, Mordecai’s cousin, queen, Jewish, trusted God, loving, beautiful, caring, articulate.*

• **Bible memory journal.** Allow time for students to complete the memory work passage in their journals. In what ways did Esther help the Israelites praise God? How was God gracious to the Israelites? How did God’s face shine upon them?

• **Complete the Unit Review** from pages 200-201. You may use this as an assessment, if you wish.

• **Celebrate the Festival of Purim.** Celebrate the day Esther saved her people by planning a Festival of Purim *(this will take several class periods)*:

- Read “Feast of Lots: Purim” from the book, *Jewish Days and Holidays*.
- Provide information about Purim from the background reading.
- Learn the songs “A Wicked, Wicked Man” and “Sing, Sing, Praise and Sing”
- Choose a date for the celebration and invite guests.
- Have children choose one of the following to prepare (see directions on following pages) for the celebration: *hamantaschen*, noisemakers, scroll, puppet play

- Designate one area of the room as the synagogue and another area as home. Gather at the synagogue and distribute the noisemakers. Explain that whenever the name of Haman is read, children should sound the noisemakers to drown out his name. Read from the Scroll of Esther. Sing “A Wicked, Wicked Man.”
- Return “home” for a feast of grape juice and *hamantaschen*. Sing “Sing, Sing, Praise and Sing.”
- Share food gifts with a neighboring classroom. Give them grape juice and *hamantaschen*. In some places, it is the custom for children to deliver these gifts in costume.
- Present the puppet play of the story of Esther to another class.

# Hamantaschen

The Jewish festival of Purim would not be complete without *hamantaschen*. No one is sure how these cookies got their name. Some say their triangular shape resembles the three-cornered hat worn by Haman when he was chief advisor to King Ahasuerus. In Hebrew, the cookies are called *oznei haman* or “Haman’s Ears.”

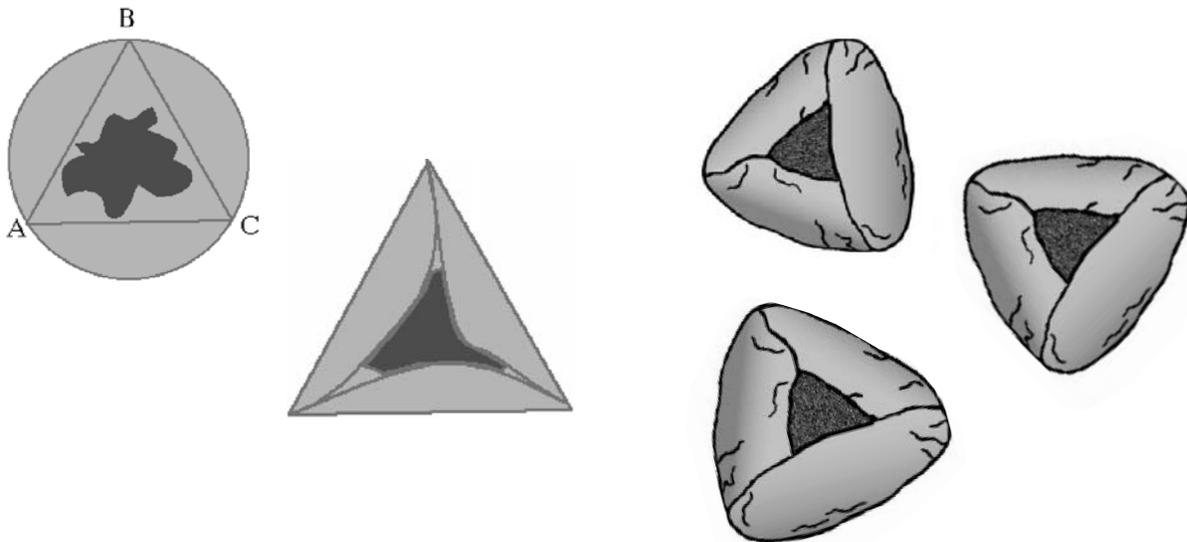
## Dough:

1 cup sugar  
¼ cup vegetable oil  
3 large eggs  
grated rind of 1 lemon  
½ teaspoon vanilla  
2 teaspoons baking powder

## Filling:

1 pound cooked prunes, pitted and chopped  
½ cup chopped walnuts  
1 tablespoon lemon juice  
1 tablespoon sugar

1. To make dough, mix first 5 ingredients together in large bowl until well blended. Add flour and baking powder. Stir to form dough. Cover dough and chill in refrigerator for three hours.
2. To make filling, mix all ingredients together, blending well.
3. Preheat oven to 375 degrees.
4. Form dough into ball. Cut ball in half and roll out each half to ¼-inch thickness on lightly floured board. Cut 3-inch circles of dough with cookie cutter.
5. Spoon one teaspoon of filling onto center of each dough circle. Fold circle in from sides, as shown, to form triangle shapes. Pinch edges to seal.
6. Place cookies 1 inch apart, on lightly greased cookie sheets. Bake 12-15 minutes, or until golden. Yields approximately 3½ dozen cookies.



# Noisemakers

Noisemakers are sounded during the reading of the book of Esther, whenever Haman's name is read, to drown out his name.

## You will need:

- Frozen juice cans and lids (one per noisemaker)
- Construction paper or adhesive-backed vinyl to cover can
- Masking tape, electrician's tape, or mailing tape
- Dried beans
- Tongue depressors or craft sticks
- Sharp knife

Wash and dry the juice cans and lids. Put one tablespoon of dried beans in each can. Use a sharp knife to make slot in middle of lid so stick will fit snugly. (*This must be done by an adult.*) Tape lid onto juice can. Insert stick and secure with tape. Cover can with construction paper and tape or adhesive-backed vinyl.

# Scroll of Esther

Make a scroll and prepare for reading the book of Esther.

## You will need:

- 12-inch by 36-inch length of paper (*size can vary; shelf paper works well*)
- 2 half-inch dowel rods, 16 inches in length
- Tape or glue
- Decorative ends for dowel rods (tassels, etc.)

Tape or glue short ends of paper to dowel rods. Attach decorative ends to rods. Write sections of the book of Esther on scroll to be read. Use the following passages: Esther 1:5-23; 3:1-13; 4:1-7:10.

When everyone is gathered in the imaginary synagogue, someone will read from the scroll.



# Finger Puppets

## To Retell the Story of Esther

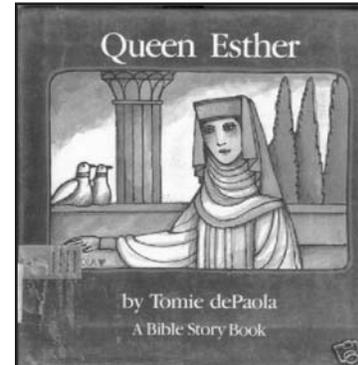
1. Reread the story of Esther in Tomie dePaola's book, *Queen Esther*.

2. Follow the directions in the center of the book to make stick puppets using craft sticks.

3. Decide who will operate each one of the puppets.

4. Include the following scenes in the puppet show:

- King Xerxes chooses Esther to be his queen.
- Mordecai hears two officials plotting to kill the king.
- Mordecai will not bow to Haman, and Haman plans to kill all of the Jews.
- Mordecai asks Esther to ask the king to save the Jewish people.
- Queen Esther is brave and approaches the king, inviting the king and Haman to a banquet.
- After treating the king and Haman to two banquets, Esther asks the king to save her life and the lives of her people.
- The king orders Haman to be hung.
- The king tells the Jewish people that they may defend themselves.
- Mordecai called for a time of celebration each year remembering how Queen Esther saved her people.



# A Wicked, Wicked Man



Oh, once there was a wick-ed, wick-ed man And Ha - man was his



name, sir. He would have mur - dered all the Jews Though



they were not to blame, sir. Oh, to - day we'll mer-ry, mer-ry be.



Oh, to - day we'll mer - ry, mer - ry be. Oh, to - day we'll



mer - ry, mer - ry be And eat some ha - man - ta - schen.

Name \_\_\_\_\_



## Unit 7 Review A King and a Queen



*Directions:* Fill in the blanks with the following words.

lifetime  
law  
eight

idols  
temple  
scroll

cried  
punished  
silver

1. Josiah became king when he was \_\_\_\_\_ years old.
2. King Josiah wanted to seek the Lord, and began by getting rid of all \_\_\_\_\_.
3. He also began to clean and repair the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.
4. The people were able to help by giving \_\_\_\_\_ to pay for repairs.
5. While the temple was being cleaned, Hilkiah discovered an old \_\_\_\_\_ that had belonged to kings from years before.
6. Part of the scroll included the \_\_\_\_\_ of Moses, which told how God wanted the people to live.
7. When King Josiah read the scroll, he tore his clothes and \_\_\_\_\_.
8. A prophetess consulted the Lord and told the king that Jerusalem would be \_\_\_\_\_ because they had been disobedient to God.
9. God saw that King Josiah was obedient to God's laws and promised that Jerusalem would not be punished during the king's \_\_\_\_\_.

*Directions:* Answer each of the following questions with a sentence.

10. What did the people do when Josiah gathered everyone together and read the scroll to them?

11. Why did King Josiah burn the idols, banish the fortunetellers and magicians, and demolish the pagan temples?

12. King Josiah read about God's laws in the old scroll that was found in the temple. What are two places or ways to learn about God's teachings today?

*Directions:* Match the character with the correct description. Some characters will be used more than once.

- |  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| ___ 13. Refused to obey the king                         | a. Xerxes        |
| ___ 14. Would not bow down to Haman                      | b. Vashti        |
| ___ 15. Was very beautiful                               | c. Esther        |
| ___ 16. Plotted to kill all the Jews                     | d. Mordecai      |
| ___ 17. Was banished from the kingdom                    | e. Haman         |
| ___ 18. Was made queen by God's divine plan              | f. Jewish people |
| ___ 19. Signed an edict to let Jews defend themselves    |                  |
| ___ 20. Told Esther to keep her Jewish identity a secret |                  |
| ___ 21. Risked her life to save the Jewish people        |                  |
| ___ 22. Celebrate the Festival of Purim                  |                  |

*Directions:* Circle the letter for each correct answer.

23. The day of destruction for the Jewish people was chosen by:
- a. casting lots.
  - b. the Jews.
  - c. drawing straws.
24. Esther had the courage to risk her life because:
- a. she had faith and trust in God.
  - b. she would have been killed anyway.
  - c. Mordecai made her do it.

## Unit 7 Review—Answer Key

1. Josiah became king when he was eight years old.
  2. King Josiah wanted to seek the Lord, and began by getting rid of all idols.
  3. He also began to clean and repair the temple of God.
  4. The people were able to help by giving silver to pay for repairs.
  5. While the temple was being cleaned, Hilkiah discovered an old scroll that had belonged to kings from years before.
  6. Part of the scroll included the law of Moses, which told how God wanted the people to live.
  7. When King Josiah read the scroll, he tore his clothes and cried.
  8. A prophetess consulted the Lord and told the king that Jerusalem would be punished because they had been disobedient to God.
  9. God saw that King Josiah was obedient to God's laws and promised that Jerusalem would not be punished during the king's lifetime.
  10. What did the people do when Josiah gathered everyone together and read the scroll to them? *The people promised to obey God and live by his teachings.*
  11. Why did King Josiah burn the idols, banish the fortunetellers and magicians, and demolish the pagan temples? *He got rid of these things because they were against the teachings of God and the people had changed their ways.*
  12. King Josiah read about God's laws in the old scroll that was found in the temple. What are two places or ways to learn about God's teachings today? *Answers will vary, but may include: church, pastor, Sunday school teacher, schoolteacher, parents, grandparents, the Bible, a friend, etc.*
- B 13. Refused to obey the king
- D 14. Would not bow down to Haman
- C 15. Was very beautiful
- E 16. Plotted to kill all the Jews
- B 17. Banished from the kingdom
- C 18. Was placed in a position as queen by God's divine plan
- A 19. Signed an edict to let Jews defend themselves
- D 20. Told Esther to keep her Jewish identity a secret
- C 21. Risked her life to save the Jewish people
- F 22. Celebrate the Festival of Purim
23. The day of destruction for the Jewish people was chosen by:
    - a. casting lots.
  24. Esther had the courage to risk her life because:
    - a. she had faith and trust in God.