

Esther

✓ True-False

Look at the underlined word to determine if the statement is true or false. If the statement is true, write *true* in the blank. If the statement is false, write *false* in the blank.

- true 1. Haman wanted to kill Mordecai because Mordecai refused to bow down to him.
- false 2. Haman was rewarded for saving the king's life. (*Mordecai*)
- true 3. Mordecai sent a message to Esther that she should ask the king to save the lives of the Jews.
- false 4. Mordecai, Esther, and their friends fasted ten days and nights. (*three*)
- true 5. Esther risked her life by going before the king when he had not sent for her.
- false 6. Esther invited the king and Haman to three banquets. (*two*)
- true 7. Haman had to lead Mordecai through the city and proclaim that he was being honored by the king.
- true 8. Although the name of God is not mentioned in the book of Esther, the book tells of God's protection for His people.

Discuss: Explain why the false answers are incorrect statements.



Short Answer

Read each question carefully, and write your answer in the blank.

1. How did Haman trick King Ahasuerus into sending out a decree to kill all the Jews?

He pretended to be concerned about the entire kingdom and told the king that the kingdom would be better off without the Jews.



2. What should King Ahasuerus have done before allowing the decree to be sent out?

Answers vary. Read it carefully. Checked on Haman's story about the Jews. Made sure he had honest people surrounding him giving him advice.

3. How did Esther show wisdom when she went before the king?

Answers vary. She obeyed Mordecai. She prayed and fasted. She asked others to pray. She planned a time to talk with the king. She waited for the right time to give her petition (or request) to the king.

4. How did Esther know she was permitted to approach the king with her request?

He held out his scepter to her.

5. What was Haman's reaction when he was invited to the Queen's banquet?

Answers vary. He was happy and thought that Esther must really like him. He bragged to his family.

6. What caused Haman to become unhappy after he received his invitation?

Mordecai still would not bow when Haman passed him.

7. What did Haman plan to do to Mordecai?

He planned to hang him.

8. What was Haman required to do instead?

He was to dress Mordecai in the king's clothing, place the king's crown on his head, and lead the king's horse through the streets as Mordecai rode on it. As he led the horse, he was to cry out, "Thus shall it be done unto the man whom the king delighteth to honour."

9. Look up Proverbs 16:18 and fill in the missing words.

"Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall."

In the story of Esther, who is best described by this verse? Haman

Discussion/Application

Use these questions to prompt discussion about life applications from lessons.

Review: Esther 5:1–14

1. King Ahasuerus made a bad decision when he listened to Haman. What if a friend came to you and asked you to do something that you were not sure was right? How could you avoid doing the wrong thing?

See answer below.

2. What do you think Mordecai meant when he told Esther, “Who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?”

3. How were Mordecai and Haman alike?

Answers vary. Both worked for the king, both were men, both had families, etc.

4. How were Mordecai and Haman different?

5. Even though the name of God is not mentioned in the book of Esther, how do we see Him working?

6. What was your favorite part from the life of Esther and what did you learn from it? *Answers vary.*

Optional—Have students draw their favorite scene in the space below.



1. Answers vary. Don't rush into a situation without thinking about the consequences. Tell your friend that you need to think about it. Check with your mom or dad or another adult. Ask God for wisdom or help.

2. Answers vary. God allowed her to become queen to save the lives of His people. God had a plan to use her before she even knew she would be queen.

4. Answers vary. Mordecai was a Jew, Haman was not; Mordecai was humble, Haman was proud; Mordecai wanted to save the lives of the Jews, Haman wanted to kill them; Mordecai was promoted in the kingdom, Haman was hanged; etc.

5. Answers vary. God allowed Esther to become queen. God used Mordecai to save the king's life. God let the king have trouble sleeping, so he could hear how Mordecai saved his life. God protected the Jews from Haman's plot. Because God is just, Haman was punished for his crimes, etc.



Something to Think About

1. Esther learned to obey at an early age. Because of this, God was able to use her to save a nation. Think about how different the story would have been if she had not obeyed Mordecai. Even though Esther did not always understand what was happening, she trusted God and obeyed Mordecai. Esther also asked the people to pray. Through prayer, God gave Esther wisdom and prepared the king to hear Esther's request. Proverbs 21:1 says, "The king's heart is in the hand of the Lord, as the rivers of water: he turneth it whithersoever he will." God worked in the heart of the king to make a favorable decision for the Jews.
2. God may call you to serve in government someday. Would you be willing to serve? Would you want Christians to pray for you?
3. Why not pray for a government official each day? Here are some ideas of those you could pray for. Can you add to the list? president, vice president, supreme court justices, governor, mayor

† Words to Live By

What does God's Word tell us about our authority? Look up 1 Timothy 2:1–2. Explain those verses in your own words.
