

WEEK 1

DISCUSSION GUIDE



THIS WEEK

BIG IDEA

With God in our corner,
We don't have to be afraid

BIBLE

Esther 7:1–6; 2 Corinthians 4:6–12;
Joshua 1:9

ABOUT THIS WEEK

Roller coasters are full of twists and turns, but we might feel terrified by a sudden or unexpected drop. This week, we'll take a look at Esther's story to see how she lived through a scary, sudden, life-or-death situation. Her story reminds us that even if we're afraid of the sudden changes that happen in our lives, **With God in our corner, we don't have to be afraid.**

Conversation Starters:

- Do you love or hate roller coasters? Why?
- How do you typically respond to fear? Do you immediately want to conquer it? Escape it? Avoid it?
- Has fear ever been a positive motivator for you? If you feel comfortable, would you share what that looked like in your life?

Scripture:

- Before we read Esther 7:1-6 together, what was Esther's issue? What caused her fear? (Someone set the scene for what we're about to read)

Choose either one person or the entire group to read Esther 7:1-6 together.

- What's one thing that stands out to you in the passage we just read?
- What would you have done if you had been in Esther's position? How would you arrive at that decision?
- How do you think Esther's belief that it was her responsibility to act and not anyone else's gave her the courage to speak up?
- The Book of Esther is the only book in the Bible that doesn't mention God by name, but God's fingerprint is all over this story. How do you see God appear in Esther's story and her relationship with Mordecai?
- Has there been a time you found yourself feeling more courageous because you had someone around to support you? Why do you think it was easier to speak up?
- Are you in a situation now where fear is keeping you from acting? Why? How do you think God wants you to handle that situation?

Choose one person to read Joshua 1:9

- Where is a place in your life where you could use God's courage? What would it look like to pray for God's help?
- The next time you are afraid, what's one thing you can do to trust God for courage?

Close out your time by praying for God to remind us that we can be courageous because He is with us.