



CONFIDENCE | WEEK 4 | NOVEMBER 23, 2025 | ELEMENTARY

ESTHER

Key Application: Confidence – Living like you believe God is with you.

Bible Story: Esther • *Esther*

Key Question: When has someone stood up for you?

Basic Truth: I am made for a purpose so the Holy Spirit will help me do big things now.

Memory Verse: Those who trust in the LORD will receive new strength. They will fly as high as eagles. They will run and not get tired. They will walk and not grow weak. *Isaiah 40:31 (NIV)*

LEADER BIBLE STUDY

People build their lives on all kinds of stories: Acing every test. Being the funny kid. Keeping the peace. Doing enough good things. But every single one of those foundations, alone, will crumble. The only safe story on which to build is the true story of a God who created us and loves us so much that when we turned away, God continued to pursue us.

God chose a people and promised through them to bless the whole world. And God fulfilled that promise by sending Jesus to rescue and redeem us. When we begin to understand this story and allow it to inform everything in our lives, we can live from a place of quiet confidence, knowing God is always with us and is able to work every single thing we face into a beautiful pattern for our good.

This month, we're exploring some larger-than life characters from God's story who lived during the decline of Israel and Judah and the following exile. These individuals chose to—or failed to—place the full weight of their lives on trust in God. Through stories of Elijah, Jonah, Daniel, Esther, and Nehemiah we see how making choices from a foundation of trust changes everything about the way you live.

Pre-Service Check List

- HUDDLE AS TEAM → You're in this together! Pray together and talk about the activities for the day.
- PLAY MUSIC
- PUT OUT TOYS → A welcoming environment is important! We want it to be obvious from the moment kids walk in that they belong HERE!
- PUT ASIDE DISTRACTIONS
- ENGAGE WITH KIDS

Morning Flow

Doors
Open
9:15/11:00

Large Group
Starts
9:35/11:20

Small Group
Starts
10:05/11:50

LARGE GROUP

COUNTDOWN AND WELCOME (3 Minutes)

(VIDEO: COUNTDOWN, SLIDE: KIDCITY EXPECTATIONS)

LGL: “Welcome everyone! I’m so glad you are able to come hang out with us in KidCity today. My name is [INSERT NAME]. We are going to have a lot of fun today, but before we do let’s go over these announcements/KidCity Expectations.

(SLIDE: 5th SUNDAY FUNDAY) “Most months of the year only have 4 Sundays in them, but every so often a month has FIVE SUNDAYS in it – which is awesome! So, every 5th Sunday we declare it ‘5th Sunday Funday’! Guess what, THIS month has 5 Sundays in it. You don’t want to miss it; we’ve got some fun things planned.

(SLIDE: KIDCITY EXPECTATIONS) “Now, let’s quickly go over our KidCity Expectations (rules) so we can make sure that we make the most of our time today: *(Don’t dwell on these too long, but make sure you review them briefly so we can set everyone up for success.)*

1. Be Kind
2. Be Safe
3. Have Fun

LARGE GROUP GAME (5 Min)

REVERSE RED LIGHT GREEN LIGHT

(No Supplies)

Welcome to Bedrock, where we’re building confidence in God that lasts—block by block. Speaking of confidence, let’s define it.

(SLIDE: KEY APPLICATION) Confidence – Living like you believe God is with you.

God chose a family and promised through them to bless the whole world. And God fulfilled that promise by sending Jesus to rescue and redeem us. When we begin to understand this story and allow it to influence everything in our lives, we can live from a place of quiet confidence, knowing God is always with us and is able to work every single thing we face into a beautiful pattern for our good.

Let’s check out our memory verse for the month.

(SLIDE: MEMORY VERSE) Those who trust in the LORD will receive new strength. They will fly as high as eagles. They will run and not get tired. They will walk and not grow weak. *Isaiah 40:31 (NirV)*

Take a minute to explain that ‘Isaiah’ is a book in the Old Testament, and that the first number means ‘chapter’ and the second one means ‘verse’. ‘NirV’ is what translation the Bible is in. The Bible wasn’t originally written in English! There are different translations.

More on that later, but for now, let's play a game!

(SLIDES: GAME SLIDE with MUSIC)

HOW TO PLAY

- Choose three-five groups (depending on the size of your environment) of at least 4 kids per group. Have them be the same gender in the group.
- Send those teams to the back of the room and have the rest of the room split so the teams have a walkway.
- Explain that you are going to play 'Reverse Red Light Green Light'. Normally, you GO on green and STOP on red, but not today! Today you do the opposite.
- Kids in a team will link arms with each other and will work together. The last group to freeze after each time "green light" is spoken must head back to the beginning to start again.
- First team to reach you wins!

"That was so fun! Now everyone stand up and let's worship God!"

WORSHIP (6-7 Minutes)

(VIDEO: THAT'S WHO I PRAISE, AT THE TOP OF MY LUNGS)

BIBLE STORY (12 Minutes)

(No Supplies)

"Let's kick things off with a question: When has someone stood up for you? Maybe it was a friend who included you when you felt left out, or someone who spoke up when you were treated unfairly. Maybe a teacher noticed you were struggling and encouraged you to keep going. Think about it—how did that make you feel? Did it fill you up with courage, or help you believe you mattered? I hope so!

"Today we're going to look at the story of someone who stood up for someone else—a lot of people, actually. It's the true story of a girl named Esther. And she learned that God had placed her exactly where she was to do something. Let's check it out...

(VIDEO: BIBLE STORY 6 MIN)

Esther didn't have superpowers. She didn't always know what to do. She was scared. But God gave her the confidence to stand up for others, even when the outcome wasn't certain. God gave her the strength to risk her own comfort to do what was right. And God can do the same for you. When you have a right relationship with God and have asked Him to be your Lord and Savior, the Holy Spirit, who is God, come and lives inside of you - helping you to do big things. Let's say our Basic Truth together...

(SLIDE: BASIC TRUTH) I am made for a purpose so the Holy Spirit will help me do big things now.



“You probably won’t have to face a king or stop an evil plot. But you are placed exactly where you are to show God’s love and stand up for others. So, there will be moments—at school, on your team, in your neighborhood—when someone needs you to stand up for them. Maybe it’s a classmate being teased, someone sitting alone at lunch, or a friend too nervous to speak up. In those moments, you don’t need to be the loudest or the bravest. You just need to trust that God is with you. God can help you stand up for others. Not because you’re perfect, but because He goes with you every step of the way and helps you do big things.

“You can even do like Esther and ask your friends to pray for you for wisdom and strength to stand up. When you stand up for others, you’re living out God’s love in a real, powerful way. You’re being a leader, just like Esther. Next time you see someone who needs a friend, or you notice something unfair, ask God for confidence. You might be the answer to someone’s prayer!

Let’s turn to our neighbor and answer the key question for today...

(SLIDE: KEY QUESTION) When has someone stood up for you?

Have kids turn and talk to their shoulder partner for 60 seconds. Your KQ slide on Playlister will keep track of time for you. While kids are talking, walk around and listen in to what they are saying and give prompts if needed. Don't try to resolve anything, kids will have a further discussion within their small group time.

“Ok friends, come back together in 3, 2, 1....

“I heard some great thoughts floating around. You are going to have more of a chance to talk about this in small group time, but for now let’s pray.

God, thank You for giving Esther the confidence to stand up for her people. Thank You for being with us, giving us what we need to stand up for others too. Help us trust You and reflect Your love, even when it’s tough. We love You and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.

DISMISS TO SMALL GROUPS



SMALL GROUP

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Consider praying before you start small group to set the tone. It is just as important as the activities.

TALK ABOUT IT (K-5th)

Not every answer will be exactly right, but the goal is to guide the kids into good conversation and gently redirect them toward deeper, more biblical answers.

Key Question: When has someone stood up for you? When have you stood up for someone else?

(Answers will vary)

LOOK IT UP (K-5th)

Grab Bibles, look up, and read the following passage.

Look Up: Esther 4:12-16

Say: The story of Esther (Old Testament) happened a long time ago in the Persian Empire, when King Xerxes (also called Ahasuerus) ruled from India to Ethiopia. Esther, through incredible confidence and trust in God, saved her people. God's people still celebrate this rescue every year with a joyful holiday called Purim.

PRACTICE IT (K-5th)

(No Supplies)

What You Do:

- Divide the kids into groups of 2-3 (or choose one-3 kids to be the actor for the whole group)
- Say, "Today you'll help me tell Esther's story, but with a twist!"
- One by one, read a real moment from Esther's story—they are listed below—then pause and ask the "What if?" question that corresponds to the real moment.
- After reading a "What If?" question, have the groups to act it out.
- Before going through Esther's story, discuss the questions below.

Talk Together:

- Ask: What gave Esther the confidence to stand up for her people even when it was hard?
 - *Esther trusted and believed God put her there at that time for a reason! (Esther 4:14b)*
- Ask: Why can we have confidence in God?
 - *Because He is good and He is always working for good.*

“What If?” Scenarios:

1. Real: Haman made a plan to hurt God’s people.
What if: Mordecai had just stayed quiet and not told Esther anything about Haman’s awful plan?
2. Real: Esther was afraid but chose to go to the king.
What if: Esther had stayed quiet and done nothing to help?
3. Real: Esther prepared two banquets to build up courage and timing.
What if: Esther had rushed in without a plan?
4. Real: Esther trusted that God had put her where she was for that time and stood up for her people.
What if: Esther only looked out for herself and ignored people in danger?

What You Say:

“Wow—so many ‘what if’ moments! Esther had a choice, just like we do! Think about it: she could’ve backed away or stayed quiet. But she put aside her own fears and trusted that God had a plan and chose to do the right thing. How incredible is it that God puts us all in the right places for a purpose to carry out His plans!

GET STRONGER (K-5th)

(Memory Verse Poster, small paper scraps [large enough to cover the individual words of the verse])

What You Do:

- Review the memory verse. Challenge kids who have already memorized it to say it without looking.
- Lay out the memory verse poster so kids can see it. Start by covering up 4 key words using your scrap paper. Have the kids read through the verse out loud, saying the covered-up words too.
- Each round increase the amount of covered up words.
- *Kindergarten adaptation: Come up with motions to the verse (can use ideas that the kids came up with in Week 1) and all practice it together.*

PRAYER

What You Say:

“Dear God, thank You for all of my friends here today! Thank You for reminding us through Esther’s story that You put us in our worlds for such a time as this. Please help us listen to Your Spirit and see the people around us whom You are calling us to help. Remind us that You are always right there with us in everything You ask us to do! We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”