

## THE PERSIAN EMPIRE

### My Map of ESTHER'S World

Esther lived in Susa but she didn't call it "home." As we study her life, you're going to come back to this map to complete mini-assignments with big impact and record Esther's lessons on purpose.







## THE PURPOSE OF THE PARTY }

The purpose of King Xerxes' party was to show off all the things that he thought were **HIS**. Find these four words that tell us what **HE** possessed.

WEALTH POMP SPLENDOR MAJESTY

R	K	C	J	I	V	F	N	O	L
M	I	O	L	I	Q	U	O	W	F
A	D	U	P	W	E	A	L	T	H
J	F	J	O	C	E	W	C	X	L
E	L	Z	M	M	M	X	N	B	K
S	W	W	P	P	F	J	H	B	W
T	S	P	L	E	N	D	O	R	H
Y	F	N	U	R	C	R	I	Y	T
Y	W	X	X	F	T	H	C	X	M
N	E	D	J	A	M	F	K	T	W



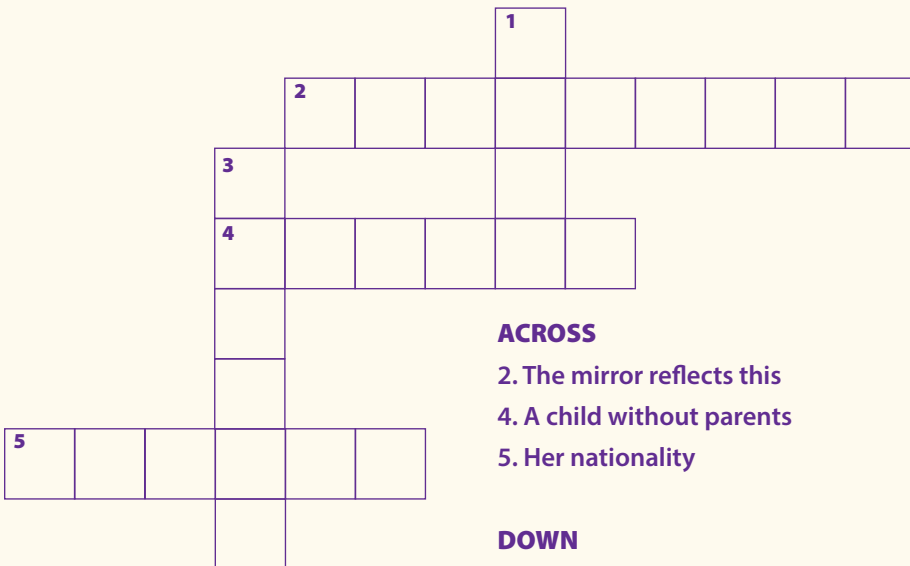
\* For puzzle answers, look in the back of the book.



## THE STAR OF OUR STORY



Using the clues below, find the words that describe Esther's **CIRCUMSTANCES**.



### ACROSS

- 2. The mirror reflects this
- 4. A child without parents
- 5. Her nationality

### DOWN

- 1. Her current home
- 3. Her relationship to Mordecai

\* For puzzle answers, look in the back of the book.



## MORDECAI'S HEART



HEY! Do you see what I see when you look at Mordecai's heart? Solve this double puzzle. First, unscramble the words on top. Then, use the letters to fill in the answer key.



OTEDPRCT

3	8	1		9				



DEOLV

4	7			



OFREARCD

5			2	

6		

G				S
1	2			

			N
3	4	5	

6	7	8

M		N
	9	

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You can start to read your Bible regularly too. Use the calendar below to schedule out your Bible reading time for the next week. (It can include your Bible study time with this book!)

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Heart icon	Snowflake icon	Star icon	Snowflake icon	Star icon	Snowflake icon	Heart icon



## FIND THE ENEMIES OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE

In this word search, I've buried the names of some of the people groups who were enemies of God's Jewish family. Can you find them?

CANAANITES

PHILISTINES

AMALEKITES

BABYLONIANS

ASSYRIANS

D	A	J	P	S	H	U	A	Z	F	W	V	E	A	Y
D	C	W	A	H	V	J	P	F	D	C	O	T	S	B
R	J	A	O	B	I	U	D	F	B	F	S	K	S	V
A	H	X	N	R	X	L	J	L	Z	V	O	H	Y	J
M	M	R	S	A	O	M	I	K	T	F	P	A	R	G
A	T	W	J	L	A	Y	G	S	S	P	N	V	I	Q
L	D	Q	V	L	Z	N	T	Q	T	D	F	C	A	D
E	I	K	L	U	T	K	I	Q	J	I	X	T	N	G
K	D	B	R	D	L	U	Z	T	N	I	N	U	S	G
I	F	R	X	N	Q	E	S	G	E	H	Y	E	H	Z
T	X	T	I	U	V	R	C	W	R	S	J	K	S	A
E	W	K	T	V	Z	K	I	I	E	O	A	J	V	S
S	M	B	A	B	Y	L	O	N	I	A	N	S	B	K
W	X	V	U	Q	L	J	A	H	K	E	I	V	M	Q
A	B	J	K	I	D	F	B	E	Q	G	F	F	N	F

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## DISCOURAGING DISCOURSE



The words Haman used to describe what would happen to the Jewish people were horribly discouraging. What were they?

### CLUES

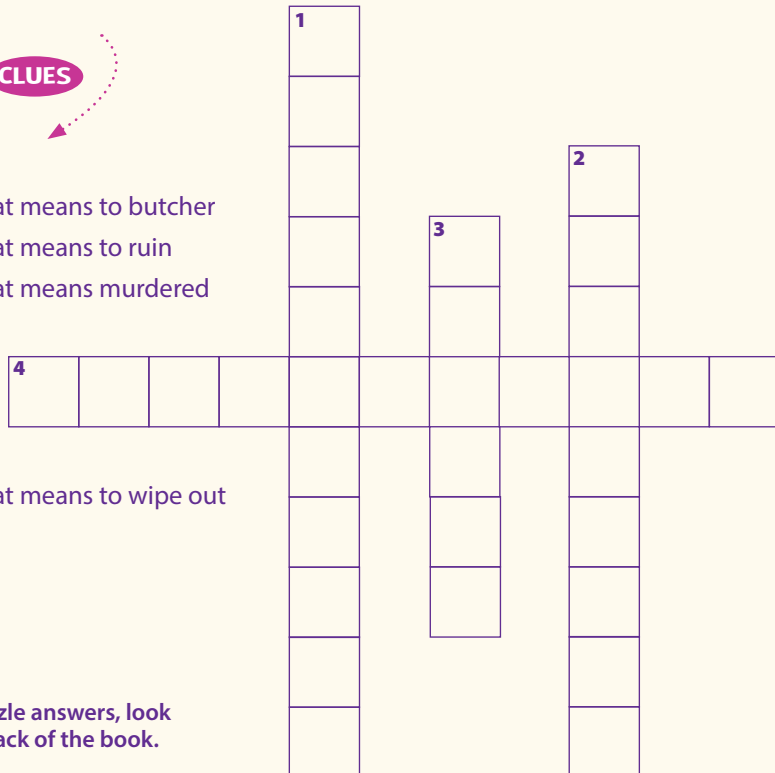
#### DOWN

1. a word that means to butcher
2. a word that means to ruin
3. a word that means murdered

#### ACROSS

4. a word that means to wipe out

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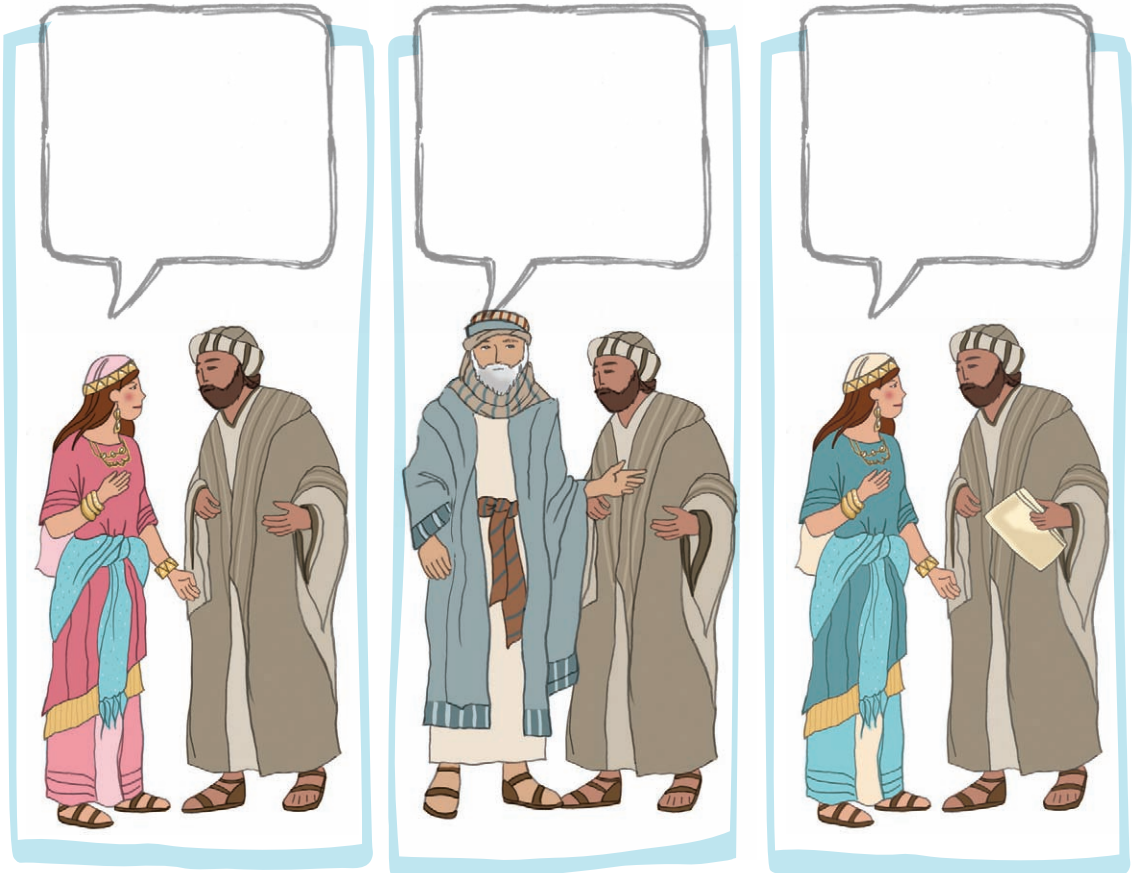




Esther did **NOT** want to do what Mordecai requested. Why? Write the answer in your own words in the cartoon frame on the left.

Mordecai sends Esther another message in the cartoon frame in the middle. Tell what he said in your own words. (We'll come back to the cartoon frame on the right later.)

## Mourning mystery mayhem





## SPIRITUAL PRACTICE



Find all the activities that help you get prepared to do what God asks you to do.

PRAYER

FASTING

READING THE WORD

WORSHIP

GODLY ADVICE

P	R	A	Y	E	R	X	Q	T	S	E	B	Y	N	E	L	A	Y
C	A	K	C	R	H	U	G	B	K	T	G	Q	R	L	L	P	D
W	U	H	Q	J	E	O	N	I	Q	T	A	H	F	Z	R	Q	T
M	E	I	L	R	V	A	R	G	C	F	Z	U	F	Y	I	W	E
R	P	M	U	Y	O	K	D	F	N	G	H	Q	Y	L	D	W	B
Q	U	M	D	E	Q	Q	O	I	P	J	Y	I	E	C	J	O	I
L	U	R	R	Y	D	D	O	R	N	E	G	K	M	R	L	R	E
C	M	M	A	K	O	O	J	W	R	G	S	W	N	E	I	S	M
V	H	T	T	E	G	K	M	Q	K	H	T	G	A	U	F	H	S
W	S	E	W	Q	K	J	G	V	D	A	K	H	M	H	T	I	I
D	J	K	K	C	F	H	O	O	Z	W	R	N	E	X	L	P	V
I	L	N	O	R	A	X	D	J	C	E	F	A	R	W	B	U	B
F	R	Q	Q	T	R	U	L	U	W	X	N	T	M	B	O	M	K
S	N	C	T	D	Q	R	Y	G	O	N	M	K	N	P	Y	R	O
X	Z	T	V	M	Z	I	A	F	O	Y	H	R	R	H	V	T	D
U	D	G	G	N	T	Q	D	Q	Q	I	O	Q	R	C	B	E	U
E	O	C	L	C	C	N	V	U	R	F	Q	C	C	B	R	J	R
I	D	H	I	G	Y	D	I	P	Q	T	R	C	O	A	X	X	L
F	A	S	T	I	N	G	C	L	G	E	J	U	I	F	Y	I	Z
O	Q	B	I	P	V	O	E	B	W	X	S	P	N	Q	S	O	I

\* For puzzle answers, look in the back of the book.



## LAW LINGO



Unscramble the key words from Esther 4:11 to reveal the Persian law.

KEY  
WORDS

1. NIKG 2. CRTOU NNERI 3. TEDINVIT 4. IED 5. DOGL TERSCEPT

"All the king's officials and even the people in the provinces know that

anyone who appears before the 1. \_\_\_\_\_ in his

2. \_\_\_\_\_ without

being 3. \_\_\_\_\_ is doomed

to 4. \_\_\_\_\_ unless the king holds out his

5. \_\_\_\_\_ .

And the king has not called for me to come to him for thirty days."

\* For puzzle answers, look in the back of the book.



## HAMAN'S DREAM



Decode the message below to find out what Haman was dreaming would be *his* reward. (But it was really for Mordecai!) Each letter in the phrase has been replaced with a random letter or number. Try to decode the message.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
5							20	2		4		26		16			7								

I H I M A R O A R O  
19 2 13 3 20 2 26 5 7 16 12 5 22 7 16 25 3

A H I M O R R O H  
5 23 9 22 3 15 20 2 26 25 16 7 7 16 1 15 20 3

K I H O R . A R A H I M  
4 2 23 19 17 20 16 7 17 3 14 5 7 5 9 3 20 2 26

A R O O O R  
5 7 16 21 23 9 15 16 1 23 11 16 7

R O O .  
3 13 3 7 12 16 23 3 15 16 17 3 3

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## THE PUZZLE PIECES OF ESTHER'S PROBLEM



On the left side are some important verses we have studied. Match them to the facts on the right side.



There were many people in Susa who did not like these people (Esther 2:10)



Esther's friends and family would be killed on this day (Esther 3:7)



It could never be changed (Daniel 6:12)



A rule or decree from the king of Persia



The Jews or Israelites



March 7th of the next year

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## PURIM: A PARTY WITH A PURPOSE

**Purim is the Jewish holiday** that celebrates God's rescue of His people in ancient Persia. You might want to have a Purim Party to celebrate your completion of the study of Esther, or at least bake some tasty Hamantaschen cookies.

### Here are some fun ways Jewish people like to celebrate Purim:

#### dress up in costumes

This is one of the most popular Purim traditions! You can make up fun costumes from things you have at home. Or make some puppets.

#### plan a purim meal

The Book of Esther has lots of banquets. The cookies are supposed to symbolize Haman's pockets or ears, depending on who you ask.

#### make noisemakers

Somewhere along the way, it became popular to make noise to celebrate Purim.

#### create purim gift baskets

Early Jews are said to have shared their banquets with people who could not otherwise afford delicious feasts. Today, some people make food baskets to share with people in need.



Draw some fun pictures of Purim!

