

OLD TESTAMENT 2022

Come, Follow Me with *Living Scriptures* STREAMING

By Divine Design

Esther

Objectives:

- Talk about how we can participate in God's divine plan by having faith and courage like Esther.

Reinforces Principles of:

- Faith, Courage

Reverence Time

Song:

I Will Follow God's Plan, Children's Songbook page 164

<https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/music/library/childrens-songbook/i-will-follow-gods-plan>

Scripture: Esther 4:14

"For if thou altogether holdest thy peace at this time, then shall there enlargement and deliverance arise to the Jews from another place; but thou and thy father's house shall be destroyed: and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?"

Video:

Watch this week's clip from the Living Scriptures Streaming Library. Find the clip at <https://www.livingscriptures.com/fhe-lesson-esther>

Lesson

Summary:

The king of Persia was upset with his queen, and so the king decided to choose a new queen. Because of her beauty, Esther was brought to the king's house and the king chose her to be the new queen. Esther was a Jew, and the niece of Mordecai, but she didn't tell the king that she was Jewish.

The king's assistant, Haman, commanded that all the people should bow to him when he was in their presence. Mordecai, knowing that he should only bow to God, refused. Haman was angry and decided to arrange a decree to kill all Jews.

Mordecai asked Esther to talk to the king in order to save her people, but it was against the law to approach the king uninvited. Mordecai realized that Esther may have been made queen as part of God's plan to save the Jews. Esther asked her people to fast and pray for her. In faith and with great courage, Esther risked her life to talk to the king. She told the king that she was a Jew and she asked him not to allow her people to be killed. Esther was able to save her people.

Quote:

"Our lives are like a chessboard, and the Lord moves us from one place to another—if we are responsive to spiritual promptings. Looking back, we can see His hand in our lives... When we are righteous, willing, and able, when we are striving to be worthy and qualified, we progress to places we never imagined and become part of Heavenly Father's "divine design." Each of us has divinity within us. When we see God working through us and with us, may we be encouraged, even grateful for that guidance." Elder Ronald A. Rasband

Questions:

Why did Mordecai refuse to bow to Haman?

Why was Haman angry with the Jews?

How did Esther prepare to talk to the king?

How did the Lord save the Jews from destruction?

How can we prepare ourselves to be part of God's plan?

Activity Time

Trust in God's Plan

Description: Esther became a queen and a hero for His people. God has a plan for each of us! Make these crowns as a reminder of God's ultimate plan for each of us.

What you need: ■ A copy of a crown for each family member, scissors, tape, marker

Preparation:

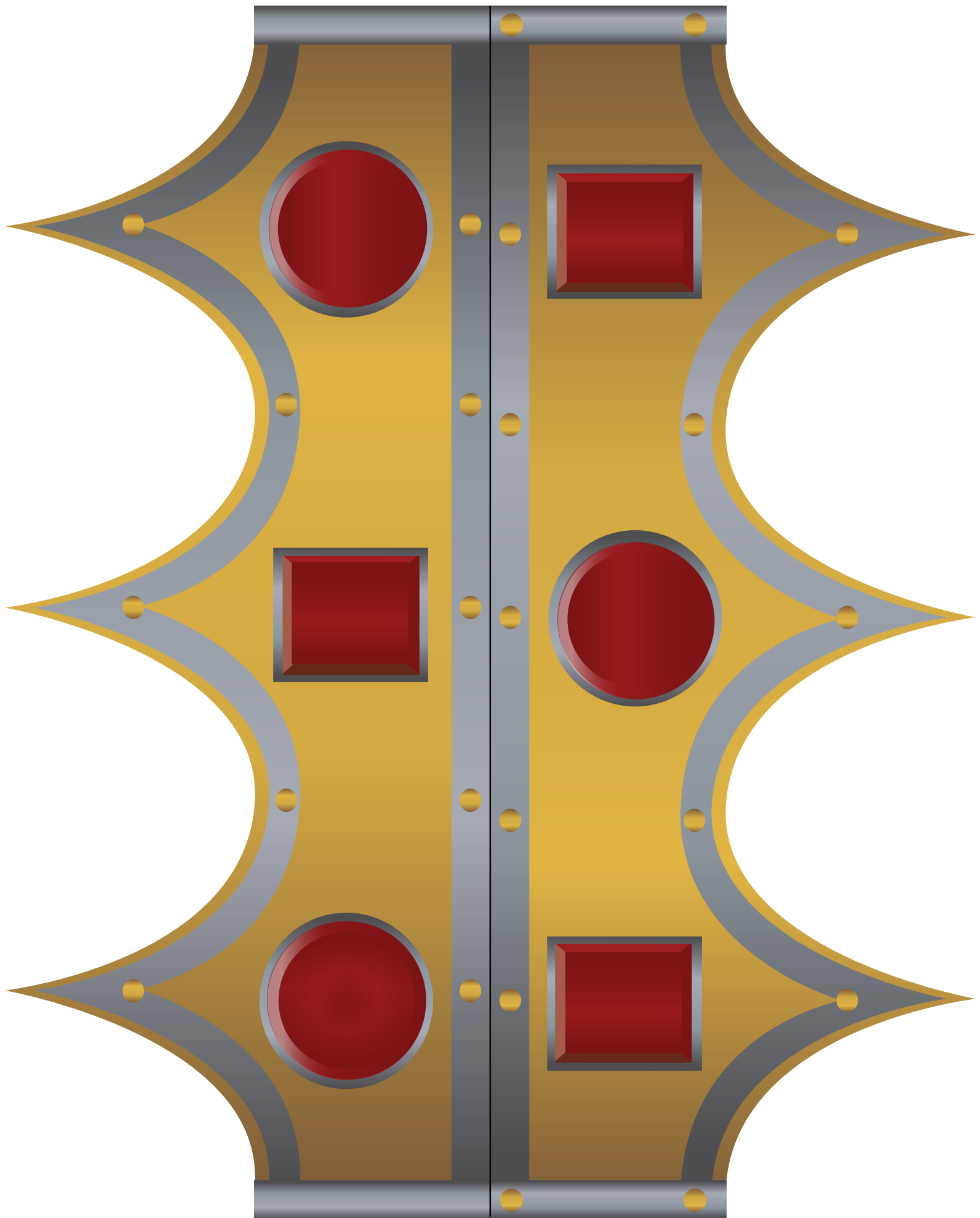
1. Print out the artwork.
2. Cut out.
3. Overlap silver bars on sides of crown and tape together to form a circle.

Activity: Remind family members that God had a plan for Esther and God has a plan for each of us. We don't know all God has planned for us, but we can learn to trust Him and his directions for our lives with faith and courage.

Let each family member use a marker to write on their crown something they've learned from Esther's story today. Here are some ideas:

Trust in God's Plan
Trust in the Lord
I Can Have Faith
I Can Be Courageous
God Has a Plan for Me

Wear your crowns while you enjoy today's Treat Time!



Treat Time

Hamantaschen

Prep Time: 5 minutes
Bake Time: 15-17 minutes
Chill Time: 30 minutes



Ingredients: 2 c. all-purpose flour
2 tsp. baking powder
1/4 tsp. salt
3/4 c. granulated sugar
1/2 c. butter
1 egg, beaten
2 T. orange juice
1 tsp. vanilla
2/3 c. apricot preserves

Instructions: Mix flour, baking powder, salt, and sugar. Cut butter into flour mixture until it resembles cornmeal. Add the beaten egg, orange juice and vanilla. Mix, just until mixture forms a ball. Refrigerate for a 1/2 hour or more. Lightly flour the top of the dough. Roll out to 1/4-inch thick on a lightly greased surface (when you cut the dough, turn it so that the floured surface sits on your palm, and the greased surface holds the filling and sticks together better). Cut the dough into 3-inch rounds. Makes about 30 Hamantaschen.

Treat Time: Give each family member 2 or 3 rounds. Fill each round with 2/3 tsp. preserves (see figure 1). Then form into triangles by folding up 3 sides and pinching edges together (see figure 2). Bake at 350°F. for 15-17 minutes on lightly greased baking sheets.

*This Jewish cookie recipe is traditionally made during the Feast of Purim to celebrate the deliverance of the Jews because of Esther's courage. Hamantaschen means "Haman's pockets", but traditionally are said to be the evil Haman's three pointed hat or his triangular ears.



1. Place preserves in center of round



2. Fold up 3 sides to form triangle. Pinch edges together.