

K-5TH

LARGE & SMALL GROUPS

NOV.-WEEK 4

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

PRE-SERVICE

GAME 15 MIN

LARGE GROUP [33 MIN]

OPENING GAME 10 MIN

WORSHIP 5 MIN

STORY VIDEO 13 MIN

BOTTOM LINE

WHAT'S OUR PART IN THE STORY

SALVATION MOMENT 5 MIN

SMALL GROUP [30-35 min]

APPLICATION 1 12 MIN

APPLICATION 2 12 MIN

CLOSING PRAYER 6 MIN

THIS MONTH



Today's Bible Story

Esther
Esther1-10

God can help you stand up for others.

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)

PRE-SERVICE GAME

“TAKE A STAND”

What You Need

- No Supplies Needed

Welcome kids by name as they arrive with a high five, fist bump, or a wave!

What You Do

1. Instruct the kids to sit in a circle.

What You Do

“Okay, I’m going to need everyone for this game! I’m going to say something, and if you agree with it, I want you to stand up. So if I say: ‘I like pizza!’—then everyone who likes pizza will stand up.

“If you don’t agree with something, that’s okay! Just stay sitting down. Then I’ll move on to the next statement. If you’re standing up and you don’t agree with the next thing I say, just sit down. Everybody ready to take a stand? Okay, here goes!

→ Share some of the following statements—or create your own that are more unique to your environment. Make sure to include statements that will allow everyone to stand at least sometimes. (YOU COULD ALSO OFFER AN OPTION OF SIMPLY RAISING A HAND INSTEAD OF STANDING.)

1. I like ketchup on French fries.
2. I like ketchup on green beans.
3. I like to wake up early in the morning.
4. My favorite color is yellow.
5. My favorite color is blue.
6. My favorite color is red.
7. I can do a cartwheel.
8. My favorite holiday is Christmas.
9. My birthday is in the summer.
10. I’ve eaten a s’more this fall.
11. I have a pet at home.
12. I would have a pet (OR ANOTHER PET) if my mom let me.
13. I can say something in a different language.
14. I have a brother or sister.
15. I like telling jokes.
16. I’ve written someone a letter and sent it in the actual mail.
17. I like salt and vinegar potato chips.

(CONT.)

PRE-SERVICE GAME (CONT,)

18. I like dark chocolate more than milk chocolate.
19. I've played on a sports team.
20. I probably have more stuffed animals than anyone.
→ **Make sure everyone has had a chance to stand (OR RAISE THEIR HAND) a few times.**

What You Say

"Wow! Way to take a stand. I feel like I know so much more about you all!

"This week, our true story from the Bible is also about someone who took a stand for something much bigger. Our story is about a woman named Esther. She learned that God had put her exactly where she was to take a stand for her people—and she did!

LARGE GROUP

OPENING GAME

“STAND UP FOR ME”

What You Need

- Two chairs

WORSHIP

STORY VIDEO

SALVATION MOMENT

What You Need

- Salvation cards
- Salvation sheet

HOST:

“Hey, hey, hey! What’s up, FUSION KIDS? I’m absolutely pumped to see you! Let’s make some noise for the awesome people around you—give your neighbor a confidence-powered high five or a big ‘You’re awesome!’

“Whoa! You guys brought EPIC energy! All month, we’ve been diving deep into something super-important. Confidence!

“But the kind of confidence is not just feeling good about ourselves. We’re talking about the kind of confidence that comes straight from God. It’s confidence that comes from knowing and living in the reality that God is with us! And when we know God is with us, we can have confidence to try what seems impossible, confidence to do what’s right and follow God’s ways, and as we’ll see this week in our Bible Story, confidence to stand up for others.

“But before we dive into our story today, it’s game time! Who’s ready for a game called ‘Stand Up for Me’?

→ **Set up two chairs on the stage with backs together.**

“To play this game, I need two volunteers who know each other really well—either siblings or friends. If you want to play, raise your hand!

→ **Choose a pair of kids with their hands raised. Instruct the kids to sit in the chairs.**

“Okay! Now that we’re set up, we’re going to play a game where I ask you questions about the other person.

“I’ll go through each of these questions one at a time, but before we start the game, let me read through all our questions first so you know what’s coming. These are the questions I’m going to ask you to answer about the other person!

(CONT.)

LARGE GROUP

OPENING GAME (COINT.)

Read through the following questions:

- What's their favorite color?
- What's their favorite song?
- What's their favorite food?
- What's their pet's name?
- What city were they born in?
- What color are their eyes?
- What is their favorite hobby or sport?

“Now that we know what questions are coming, let's start our first round! Kid 1, one at a time, I will ask you those questions about Kid 2 first.

“For each question, you'll say your answer and the other kid will stand up if it's right, then sit down, and stay seated if it's wrong.

- **Repeat the game so Kid 2 answers all of the Questions about Kid 1. Celebrate both kids for being friends.**
- **Repeat the game with other pairs who are willing to try.**

“Wow, you guys! It's so awesome that you know so much about each other! Having people know things about us—even if they don't know everything—means a lot. It's a gift in life to have a friend!

“And you know what means even more? When someone stands up for you, when someone looks out for you. Today, we're going to talk about someone who realized God had put her exactly where she was to stand up for a whole group of people. But before we do that, let's head to worship!”

WORSHIP

STORY VIDEO

SALVATION MOMENT

What You Need

- Salvation cards
- Salvation sheet

SMALL GROUP

APPLICATION 1

“BUILD IT STORY REVIEW”

What You Need

- Print “Story Image Cards” Activity Page on cardstock and cut apart, one set for each Small Group
- Squares and triangles cut from cardstock, at least 15 for each kid
- 1 piece of construction paper for each kid

What You Do

1. Have kids sit at tables.
2. Put cardstock pieces in center of table(s) for all to reach.
3. Give each kid a blank piece of construction paper.
4. Say, “Today we’re going to build parts of the Bible Story using these shapes! Make your shapes into pictures as you hear each part of the story on your construction paper. I will show you a picture of what to make!”
5. Read each Story Prompt slowly and clearly (they’re listed below), while displaying the card from the “Story Image Cards” Activity Page that matches.
5. Give the kids time to arrange their shapes after each Story Prompt.

Bible Story Points:

- “King Xerxes was a powerful king. When his queen didn’t listen, he decided to find a new one!” (HOLD UP IMAGE OF CROWN.)
- “A girl named Esther lived with her cousin Mordecai. She was kind and beautiful—and the king chose her to be queen!” (HOLD UP IMAGE OF HOUSE.)
- “Haman was an evil man who worked for the king. He got really mad at Mordecai for not bowing to him and made a plan to get rid of all the Jewish people.” (HOLD UP IMAGE OF LETTER “H.”)
- “Mordecai asked Esther for help. She was scared but brave! She said yes, and planned a way to help her people.” (HOLD UP IMAGE OF CHECKMARK.)
- “Esther had two feasts with the king and Haman, and at the second one, she told them everything. She asked the king, ‘Please save my people!’ (HOLD UP IMAGE OF BANQUET TABLE.)
- “The king made a new law that the Jewish people could stay safe! Haman was punished, and Esther saved her people!” (HOLD UP IMAGE OF TRUMPET.)

What You Say

Amazing job building, friends! God made Esther queen, and He made her queen at the exact right time. Her people needed help! So Queen Esther trusted that God had a plan and stood up for her people! “You know what? God has put you in the exact time and place to help people too! You’re in your class for that reason. You’re on your team for a reason. You’re in your family for a reason. You’re in your church for a reason! There are people you will see in your life who need you to stick up for them.

SMALL GROUP

APPLICATION 1 (CONT.)

“Just like Esther, God has put you exactly where you are to help! When you go on the playground, and you see someone being picked on, and you say something to stop it, that’s standing up for someone! And God put you right there to help!

“When you go to lunch and you see someone forgot theirs that day, and you share yours, you’re helping someone! And God put you right there to help!

“You probably won’t have to go before a powerful king ... but there are going to be times when God wants you to help, to stand up for others. When it feels scary, ask God to help you. He loves to! God can help you stand up for others!”

SMALL GROUP

APPLICATION 2

“TAKE A SNAPSHOT”

What You Need

- Floor tape, one roll for each Small Group

What You Do

1. Mark a start line in your group area.
2. Invite the kids to stand behind it.
3. Stand a few feet away.
4. Explain that you will read scenarios one at a time.
 - Everyone who thinks they could do that challenge for someone with God’s help will take a step forward.
5. The kids will continue to take steps forward after you read each scenario.
6. Frequently ask kids to share why they would or wouldn’t do it, and how God could help.

Challenge Scenarios

1. Invite a new kid to sit with you at lunch.
2. Stand up and say something when someone is being teased.
3. Share something important about your faith with someone.
4. Say “I’m sorry” first, even when it’s hard.
5. Include someone who is often left out.
6. Pray for a friend, out loud.
7. Start a lemonade stand to raise money for a good cause.
8. Help a kid on your basketball team who is having trouble with their free throws.
9. Join someone who is eating lunch alone in the cafeteria.
10. Pause your game to go check on a classmate who is upset at recess.

WHAT YOU SAY

Talk Together

1. How does it make you feel when someone stands up for you?
2. Explain that we aren’t meant to do life alone, which means we are to help each other when we need help. God wants to help us live confidently in Him so we can stand up for others—so that more people will come to know Him!
3. Explain that we don’t have to stand up for people alone. When we choose to follow Jesus, God’s very Spirit moves inside of us. Throughout the day, He will say to our heart, “Hey, do you see that lonely kid over there? Let’s go sit with him.” God will show us what to do and help us do it!

SMALL GROUP

PRAY AND DISMISS

What You Need

- 3rd-5th Graders - Index Cards & Pens**

What You Do

1. Gather the kids in a seated circle.
2. Say, "Esther showed real courage when she stood up for others."
5. Ask the kids to quietly think of a person they know who might need someone to look out for them.
→ Give examples like a new kid at school, someone who's been left out, or a friend going through a hard time.
6. Encourage them to remember this person in their prayers.
7. Close in prayer.

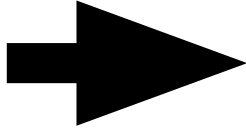
Prayer

"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."

**3rd-5th- write down your prayer request on a index card and place inside the prayer box.*

GETTING READY

What You Need



PRE-SERVICE GAME

- No Supplies Needed

OPENER GAME

- Two chairs
- Two clipboards
- Two pens
- Several sheets of paper (at least seven for each clipboard)

SALVATION MOMENT

- Salvation cards
- Salvation sheet

APPLICATION 1

- Print “Story Image Cards” Activity Page on cardstock and cut apart, one set for each Small Group
- Construction paper, one sheet for each kid
- Cardstock, 5-10 sheets for each Small Group
- Before group time: Cut the cardstock into squares and triangles.

APPLICATION 2

- Floor tape, one for each Small Group

PRAY AND DISMISS

- 3rd-5th Graders - Index Cards & Pens**