



6

God Uses Esther

Key Theme

- God uses people to accomplish His perfect plans.

Key Passages

- Esther 2:8–9, 2:16–17, 2:21–23, 3:8–10, 4:15–17, 8:3–8

Objectives

Students will be able to:

- Describe God's sovereign control over the events in the book of Esther.
- Explain how God used people to protect the Jews.



Lesson Overview



Come On In

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Students will practice the memory verse by working on a crossword puzzle and reciting the verse to a friend.



Activity 1: God Uses Esther Class Notes

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Students will fill out the God Uses Esther Class Notes as you study the lesson.



Studying God's Word

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The events in Esther are woven together in a dramatic and incredible way. God's sovereignty is clearly seen throughout all the events. Esther was gathered with other young women as a candidate and then chosen to be Queen of Persia. Next, a plot was devised to destroy all the Jews in the kingdom. But in His providence, God had positioned the young Jewish girl Esther as queen in order to foil the plot and save the Jews.



Activity 2: Esther's Royal Relay

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Teams will use the royal "scepter" to pick up question cards and then answer the questions.

Lesson Preparation

WHAT YOU WILL DO

WHAT YOU WILL NEED



COME ON IN

- Print one Memory Verse Review Sheet from the Resource DVD-ROM for each student.

- Memory Verse Poster
- Memory Verse Review Sheet for each student



GOD USES ESTHER CLASS NOTES

- Print one God Uses Esther Class Notes from the Resource DVD-ROM for each student. Keep the answer key for your use.

- God Uses Esther Class Notes for each student
- God Uses Esther Class Notes Answer Key
- Pencils



STUDYING GOD'S WORD

- Study the Prepare to Share section.
- Go Before the Throne.

- Student Take Home Sheets



ESTHER'S ROYAL RELAY

- Print one Royal Relay Teacher Guide from the Resource DVD-ROM.
- Print and cut out one set of 20 Royal Relay Cards from the Resource DVD-ROM.

- Royal Relay Teacher Guide
- 20 Royal Relay Cards
- Duct tape, ribbon, or string
- 2 wrapping paper tubes, dowel rods, or yardsticks to use as scepters



Memory Verse

Proverbs 21:1 The king's heart is in the hand of the Lord, like the rivers of water; He turns it wherever He wishes.

► **Pace your lesson!** Use the clocks to mark the time you want to finish each section. This will help you stay on track and finish on time. You may need to shorten or drop sections as necessary.





Prepare to Share

SCRIPTURAL BACKGROUND

Prepare to teach by preparing your heart. Read the lesson key passages along with this background.

If you haven't done so, take time to read through the entire book of Esther so that the flow of the events is in your mind. As you teach the lesson, you will be summarizing some events for the students and focusing on a few key passages in your time of study together. As you read Esther, you might notice that something is missing . . . God! Nowhere in the account is God mentioned. Nor is this book alluded to in the New Testament. Though God is unmentioned by name, His sovereign hand is evident throughout these events, and that will be drawn out in the lesson.

The events of Esther take place during the reign of the Persian King Ahasuerus. There is a bit of debate about who this ruler was (see historical section below), but we will connect him to Darius I who reigned from 521–485 BC. This places these events from about 520–510 BC with Esther being made queen in 515—the same year that the Temple was dedicated by Zerubbabel (Ezra 6). So these things happened after the first return of the Jews to Jerusalem, but before Ezra's return in 467.

As the book of Esther opens, King Ahasuerus (Darius I) had prepared a great feast, but his queen, Vashti, refused to appear before the king's guests. As a result, the king's counselors directed him to remove the queen and seek a new queen from among the beautiful young virgins of the Persian Empire. This decree by the king (whose heart was in God's sovereign hand—Proverbs 21:1) brought Esther into the picture.

How does a young Jewish girl wind up as the queen of the Persian Empire? It surely requires an amazing series of events—events under the guidance of an omnipotent God. But these events also require the interaction of many different people. God typically works out His plans in the world through human agents. From the king and queen to the party guests, and from Mordecai to Haman and the many messengers and scribes, all of these individuals and their personal wills, desires, thoughts, and actions ultimately brought about what God intended. Only an omnipotent God could bring about a certain result amid such a myriad of intersecting factors.

Before Esther was known as Esther, her name was Hadassah. Her great-grandfather, Kish, was among the captives carried away by Nebuchadnezzar with King Jehoiachin in 599 BC (Esther 2:5–6). After her parents

died, she was cared for by her older cousin Mordecai. They lived in Shushan (or Susa)—the winter residence of the Persian kings. Esther was among the beautiful young virgins who were gathered together, possibly by force, at the palace fortress. At several points in the account, we learn that Mordecai asked her to not let anyone know that she was a Jew (2:10, 2:20). Hadasah (meaning "myrtle") would be immediately recognized as a Jewish name, so her name was changed to the Persian name Esther, which likely means "star."

In the palace, the women were cared for by Hegai, the king's eunuch, and given beauty treatments for one year before the king would select one as his queen (2:8–14). We see God's hand, behind the scenes, in Esther's favor with Hegai and his special treatment of her (2:9, 2:15). On the day Esther was to appear before the king, she pleased him above all others and was made queen. God had elevated a Jewish captive to the queen of Persia through the decision of a king.

All the while, Esther's cousin Mordecai had been keeping in touch with her. He was likely a scribe or advisor in the palace and had access to her (2:11, 2:19). At one point, Mordecai uncovered a plot to murder the king. He informed Esther, the men were executed, and all of it was recorded in the chronicles of the king. Sometime later, a man named Haman came to power under King Ahasuerus. Mordecai would not bow to Haman, and Haman became enraged. Haman arranged a plot to have all the Jews in Persia killed on a specific day (3:1–15).

As Mordecai and the Jews around the kingdom heard of the decree, they were distraught. Esther had the same reaction when she heard the news and contacted Mordecai (4:1–9). When Mordecai asked her to confront the king and ask him to spare the Jews, she was afraid to do so, knowing that she could be put to death. Mordecai counseled her with wise words, reminding her that since she was a Jew, she would not escape the decree. If she did not go to the king, Mordecai was certain that deliverance would come from another place. He also recognized her placement in the palace as God's providence: "Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?" (4:14). Esther had a choice to make.

Esther appeared uninvited before the king and was granted access—her life was spared (5:1–2). Surely, the king's heart was in God's hand. After this, a series of events quickly unfolded, again demonstrating God's hand: Esther arranged a banquet for the king and Haman; Haman planned to kill Mordecai; Mordecai

was honored by the king; at a second banquet, Esther revealed Haman's plot to kill her and her people; the king ordered Haman hung on the gallows at his own home; Mordecai was elevated to Haman's position; and Esther and Mordecai were allowed to write their own decree to protect the Jews. Wow! If you think that all this happened by chance, you do not understand who God is.

As you read through Esther, there can be no doubt that God was just as involved in protecting the Jews at this point as He was involved in leading them out of Egypt and as He was in the crucifixion of Christ on the Cross. Even though His name is not mentioned, we dare not deny that God was accomplishing His plans through each of these people.

HISTORICAL/APOLOGETICS BACKGROUND

Although the book of Esther appears relatively early in the Old Testament sequence of books, the events happen rather late in the actual timeline of Old Testament history. The time period of Esther occurs with the historical books of Ezra and Nehemiah while the prophets Isaiah and Ezekiel, whose books appear later in the Bible, actually lived long before Esther. So be careful to help your students understand where all of the pieces fit together. You can use the History of Israel poster to help with that.

There is debate about the identity of the king in the book of Esther. Some believe the time period of Esther was actually *after* Ezra's return during the reign of Xerxes (485–465 BC). The dates and explanations used in this curriculum are based on the work of Archbishop James Ussher. It is difficult to assign exact dates in this period since there are few records and multiple rulers at the same time. Some rulers used the same titles and names. Also, the records in Greek use different names than the Persian records, and the biblical names are sometimes transliterated into Hebrew. With that said, whether this was one king or another, God was still in control.

The events recorded in the book of Esther are still celebrated by Jews today. After the Jews were delivered from annihilation, the festival of Purim was celebrated

(9:18–32). This festival is still celebrated each year by the Jews to commemorate God's deliverance through Esther and Mordecai.

Here is another important idea to consider from a historical perspective: If Haman's plan had been carried out, Zerubbabel, who had led the return to Jerusalem, would have been killed. Why does that matter? Zerubbabel was a descendant of David who is in the genealogy of Jesus in Matthew 1:12. This plan would have removed the possibility of Jesus being born as a descendant of David. If the line of David had been destroyed, then the promised Messiah would not have come to pass. Satan would love nothing more than to thwart God's plan, and we can safely assume that Satan was pleased with Haman's plan, if not directly orchestrating it behind the scenes. And yet God's plans stand. Let us proclaim along with Job: "I know that You can do everything, and that no purpose of Yours can be withheld from You."



BEFORE THE THRONE

Lord Jesus, I greatly rejoice today as I remember how you providentially moved through the people and events in Persia all those years ago. Each time I read this book, I stand in awe of you. You were in control then . . . and you are still in control, moving in much the same way. It's true! You are still sovereignly accomplishing your will today through your people. I know that. But there are still times when I get scared or depressed. There have been times when I've almost lost hope. Forgive me, Lord. Help me grow in this area. When things look bad, bring young Esther to my mind. Give me the courage to trust you and stand in faith believing you are in control and want what is best for me. Use me as you used her. To glorify you is my one desire—in the good times and the bad. May your Word come alive as I teach this lesson. Use it to penetrate each heart and convict us all to trust you more.



COME ON IN

As students arrive . . .

- They will complete the Memory Verse Review Sheet. If time allows, have the students recite the verse together, to each other, or to you.

This time at the beginning of class should be used to review the memory verse. We have provided an activity sheet on the Resource DVD-ROM for you to use. You may have other ideas and ways to encourage your students to memorize the verse.



After all the students arrive, pray with them before beginning the lesson.



REVIEW

Using the Lesson Theme Posters provided with each lesson, quickly review the previous lesson(s) with your students. Take 5 to 10 minutes to reinforce the important truths the students have heard so far in your class.

Ask the children questions about the previous lessons as you display the Lesson Theme Posters. Reflect briefly on the passages you read, bringing the objectives and themes back into focus. This will refresh the truths in your students' minds and maintain continuity as you teach through the lessons.



God Uses Esther Class Notes

MATERIALS

- God Uses Esther Class Notes for each student
- God Uses Esther Class Notes Answer Key
- Pencils

INSTRUCTIONS

Pass out the class notes at the beginning of class. Have students fill in the blanks as you study the lesson.

We will complete the class notes as we study the Bible passages. Do not work

ahead. I'll let you know when to fill something in.

After filling out each point on the class notes, have the students re-read the statement together or call on individual students to read it.

CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

As we complete the class notes today, we will see God's sovereign hand at work as He arranges all the events according to His perfect will.



Studying God's Word

READ THE WORD

Refer to the Lesson 5 Lesson Theme Poster and the History of Israel Poster to indicate the time this event took place. Well, in Jerusalem the people were celebrating their return home from captivity and the dedication of the new Temple that had been completed under Zerubbabel's leadership. But back in Persia (the nation that used to be Babylon) things did not look good for the Jews who were still living there. We will be reading from the book of Esther today. Turn there in your Bibles.

- Use the History of Israel Poster included with your teacher kit to show your class where the biblical accounts you study chronologically fit into this timeline.

As you read the book of Esther, you might think that Esther is the main character. But she is not. God is the main character, and God worked through many situations and people in this book to accomplish His perfect will.

Esther was a Jew. But she was born in Babylon and raised by her cousin Mordecai. Her parents had previously died. *Refer to History of Israel Poster.* Remember that the Babylonians had conquered Judah and brought the people into Babylon to live. Years later, a nation called Medo-Persia conquered the Babylonians. Now the same land was part of the Persian Empire. And this is where Esther and Mordecai were living and where the events of the book of Esther took place.

? Look at #1 on your class notes. Can someone read that for me? What is the answer based on what I just said? *Assign a reader. Persia.*

The book of Esther begins with the king and queen of Persia. The king of Persia got angry with his queen and commanded that she be removed from the throne. She was not the queen anymore. This started a search for a new queen. The king sent his men to gather all the beautiful, young women of the land. He would choose his next queen from among them.

? Someone read #2 on your class notes. How will you finish that? *Assign a reader. Queen.*

? And can someone read #3? How will you answer that? *Assign a reader. Women.*

And that's where we will pick up this exciting account. The beautiful, young women were being gathered to the royal palace. Turn to Esther 2:8–9. Let's read. *Choose students to read the verses.*

Esther 2:8–9

EXAMINE THE WORD

Observe the Text

? So the king began looking for a new queen. Who was being gathered at the citadel? *Esther 2:8. Many young women.*

? What is a citadel? *Allow discussion. The king's palace.*

? There is one woman spoken of in particular in verse 8. Who was it? *Esther.*

Look at Esther 2:8 again. All the women were put under the custody of Hegai, one of the king's servants. It was his job to get the women ready to go before the king. Hegai was put over Esther, too.

? In Esther 2:9 what did Hegai think of Esther? *She pleased him. She obtained his favor.*

? And what did Hegai do for Esther because he favored her over the others? *Esther 2:9. He gave her more beauty preparations than the other women. He gave her seven maidservants. And he moved her to the best place in the house for women.*

? Now go to #4 on your class notes. Someone read that please. How will you answer that? *Assign a reader. Esther.*

Esther, the Jew, was put in a special place. God was already working to save the Jewish people in Persia from the plot to destroy them. God was in control from the very beginning.

Esther spent an entire year of beauty treatments in the palace. She was being prepared to meet the king. And, finally, the time came for Esther to go before the king. Would the king look favorably on her? Well, Esther didn't know what would happen. Only God knew. And we can find out by reading His holy Word. Someone read Esther 2:16–17. *Assign a reader. Read Esther 2:16–17.*

Esther 2:16–17

- ? Did Esther find favor with the king? *Yes!*
- ? What did the king think of her? *Esther 2:17. The king loved Esther more than all the other women.*
- ? Can someone read #5 on your class notes? How will you finish that? *Assign a reader. Loved.*
- ? Yes. He loved her, and she obtained grace and favor in his sight. What did he do after meeting her? What did he put on her head? *Esther 2:17. He put the crown on her head. He made her queen!*
- ? Who will read #6 on your class notes? How will you complete that sentence? *Assign a reader. Crown.*

So Esther, a Jewish woman, received the crown and was now queen of Persia. Her cousin Mordecai kept close watch on her. And Mordecai, while keeping track of Esther, discovered that someone wanted to murder the king! Pay close attention as we read these next verses! *Choose students to read Esther 2:21–23.*

Esther 2:21–23

- ? Exactly where was Mordecai sitting? *Esther 2:21. Within the king's gate.*
 - ? Who else was there with Mordecai? *Esther 2:21. Two of the king's eunuchs, Bigthan and Teresh. They were doorkeepers.*
 - ? What does the Bible say these men were going to do? *Esther 2:21. Lay hands on the king.*
- Yes. The Bible says they were furious with the king and were planning to kill him.
- ? But who overheard their plot? Who was sitting within the king's gate? *Esther 2:22. Mordecai.*
 - ? And who did he tell? *Esther 2:22. Queen Esther.*
 - ? Then who did Esther tell? *Esther 2:22. The king.*
 - ? What happened to the two men who had plotted to kill the king? *Esther 2:23. They were hanged on a gallows.*

Gallows is the name of the structure where people were hanged.

- ? Who can read #7 and complete that sentence? *Assign a reader. King.*

? And how about #8? Someone read it. How will you complete that sentence? *Assign a reader. Hanged.*

This plot was part of God's plan to save the Jews. God had placed Mordecai inside the palace gates where he would be sure to hear of the plot to kill the king. And after the king's life was saved, the Bible tells us the entire account was written down in the book of the chronicles, which was a record of important events that happened in the kingdom. The plot was recorded, including the fact that it was Mordecai who had warned the queen of the king's danger.

? Take a look at #9 on your class notes. Will someone read that? How will you complete that sentence? *Assign a reader. Mordecai.*

But things were not good for the Jews in the nation of Persia! The king promoted a man named Haman to a very powerful position in the nation. The king had commanded that the people bow to Haman because of his high position. But Mordecai would NOT BOW to this man. Haman became so angry that he formed a plan that would destroy Mordecai, the Jew, and ALL the Jews in Persia at the time.

So Haman went to the king. Haman wanted to use his power and influence to persuade the king to order the destruction of the Jews.

? Look at #10 on your class notes. Will someone read that? How will you answer that? *Assign a reader. Haman.*

Will Haman succeed? Turn to Esther 3:8–10. We'll read about the king's reaction to Haman's request. *Choose students to read Esther 3:8–10.*

? Haman said there was a certain people scattered in the kingdom. Who do you think he was referring to? *Esther 3:8. Allow discussion. The Jewish people.*

? What did he say about the Jewish laws? *Esther 3:8. Their laws are different from others. They don't keep the king's laws.*

? And what does the very end of Esther 3:8 say? The last sentence there? *It is not fitting for the king to let them remain.*

Haman wanted the Jews destroyed, and he knew the king could do it. The king agreed, signed a decree to kill all the Jews, and told Haman to see to it!

? Well, who do we know were Jews? *Allow discussion. Queen Esther and Mordecai were Jews!*

The king didn't know Queen Esther was a Jew, but he was signing her death certificate. Because the decree included ALL Jews be killed! The king sent a letter telling everyone throughout the country to destroy, kill, and annihilate all the Jews, young and old, little children, and women. This was really bad!

? But, who was in control? *God.*

Esther 3:8–10

Discover the Truth

God was in control of the entire situation. He made Esther queen. He allowed Mordecai to discover the plot to murder the king. Mordecai's message saved the king's life. God even knew all about Haman's plan to kill all the Jews. God was and is always in complete control of all events. He is sovereign. God was setting something up here. Let's finish and see what happened next!



SOVEREIGN

(Refer to Attributes Poster)

READ THE WORD

God allowed Mordecai to learn about Haman's plan to kill the Jews. Mordecai and all the Jews in the land mourned this news. They fasted and cried out when they heard what was to happen. Mordecai went to Queen Esther and pleaded for help. He asked the queen to go before the king and beg for mercy. But there was a law that made that impossible! No one could approach the king without being invited—not even the queen. If she went without an invitation, the king could kill her on the spot! Only one thing could save her. If the king lowered his scepter to her when she approached, she would live.

Mordecai reminded Esther that although she risked death to approach the king, she too was a Jew, so the law applied to her. Queen Esther would be killed, too. Mordecai told her that it could be for this very reason that she had become queen—for such a time as this.

? Will someone read #11 for us? How will you complete that? *Assign a reader. Kill.*

What would Esther do? Would she risk her life to save the lives of the Jewish nation? Let's read Esther 4:15–17. *Assign a reader. Read Esther 4:15–17.*

Esther 4:15–17

EXAMINE THE WORD

Observe the Text

- ? What did Esther tell Mordecai to do? *Esther 4:16. Gather the Jews and fast.*
- ? How long were they going to fast? *Esther 4:16. Three days.*
- ? What was Esther going to do after the fast? *Esther 4:16. She would go to the king.*
- ? And what was she willing to do to save the Jews? It is at the very end of Esther 4:16. *Perish!*
- ? Who can read #12 on your class notes? How would you finish that? *Assign a reader. Fast.*

Esther wanted the people to pray and fast for three days. Then she would go to the king. She would rely on God to protect her. And God did! When Queen Esther entered the royal house where the king was on his throne, the king welcomed Esther by lowering his scepter! The king asked Queen

Esther what she requested. He assured her it would be given to her! God had seen to it that the king accepted Queen Esther.

? Someone read #13 on your class notes. How will you answer that? *Assign a reader. Welcomed.*

He welcomed her. And this led to God's plan to save the Jews. The queen invited the king and the wicked Haman to a banquet. This banquet led to a second banquet. Haman was so happy! He now believed he was the favorite of both the king and the queen and that his plot to kill the Jews and Mordecai would soon happen.

But that was not God's plan! One night before the second banquet, the king couldn't sleep. He ordered that the chronicles be read to him—these were accounts of important events that had happened in the kingdom. As they were read, the king was reminded of the time Mordecai overheard the plan to murder the king. The king remembered that it was Mordecai who saved his life back then. And Mordecai had never been properly honored for his loyalty, so the king wanted to honor Mordecai in a special way.

? Someone read #14 on your class notes. How will you answer that? *Assign a reader. Saved.*

Now God had arranged for Mordecai to be honored by the king. At the same time, Queen Esther's second banquet was held. The king asked again what her request was. Queen Esther revealed everything to the king. She admitted she was a Jew. She told the king of Haman's wicked plot to destroy all the Jews in the land. And she requested that the king allow her and all the Jews to live.

? Look at #15 on your class notes. Will someone read that for us? How will you complete it? *Assign a reader. Jews.*

The king realized that this plot would include his queen, Esther, and Mordecai, who had once saved his life. The king was furious and ordered the death of his servant Haman. God revealed His sovereignty through these unlikely events that saved His people, the Jews, from total destruction.

Let's read Esther 8:3–8 to see what God did about the Jews! *Choose students to read or read Esther 8:3–8 aloud and have the students follow along.*

? What did Esther ask the king? *Esther 8:5. To revoke the letters Haman sent.*

Revoke means to cancel the letter. Esther was asking the king to cancel the order to kill the Jews that Haman had sent throughout the country.

? The king agreed with Esther. What did he tell Mordecai and Queen Esther to do? *Esther 8:8. Write another decree concerning the Jews in my name.*

Mordecai and Queen Esther wrote a letter of protection for the Jews—not a letter of death. The letter was signed by the king and sent throughout the land of Persia. God had saved the lives of His people.

Esther 8:3–8

? Look at #16 on your class notes. Someone please read that for us. How will you complete it? *Assign a reader. Protected.*

Discover the Truth

We just looked at the whole book of Esther! We saw God work out many details to accomplish one thing. Everything that happened fit together perfectly to keep the Jewish people—God’s people—from being destroyed. This account of Esther, Mordecai, Haman, the king, and the Jewish people is a good example of God’s sovereignty. He can arrange the most complicated events to accomplish His will. God’s will in this account was to save the lives of His people. And He did it by working through the people and events recorded in the book of Esther.



Esther’s Royal Relay

MATERIALS

- Royal Relay Cards
- Royal Relay Teacher Guide
- 2 scepters made from wrapping paper tubes, dowel rods, or yardsticks
- Duct tape, ribbon, or string to attach to the Royal Relay Cards

INSTRUCTIONS

Prepare the Royal Relay Cards by attaching a loop of duct tape, ribbon, or string on the back of each card. Scatter the cards face down on the floor at the front of the class. Students will use the “scepters” to pick up the cards using the loops. See the Royal Relay Teacher Guide for complete directions and the review questions and answers!

We are going to divide into two teams. Each team will earn points by answering the questions from today’s lesson on the Royal Relay Cards.

CONNECT TO THE TRUTH

Congratulations! Not only did you do well answering all the questions, but you had fun doing it. I hope this relay reminded you of all the different events that happened in Esther. Through all the twists and turns we heard about in the book of Esther, we saw God’s hand at work to accomplish His perfect plan to save His people, the Jews, from the wicked plot of Haman.



Applying God’s Word

WHAT YOU HEARD IN THE WORD

Today we studied the book of Esther in God’s Word. As we read this book, we may think the main character was Esther. But she was not! The main character was God! God used the young Jewish girl Esther, Mordecai,

Haman, the king, and even the king's servants to accomplish His will to save the Jews from destruction.

God's hand was at work in so many of the details of this event! Here is a list of just a few: 1) The Jewish girl Esther became queen of a pagan nation. 2) Mordecai overheard the plot to murder the king and save the king's life. 3) The king accepted Queen Esther when she approached him uninvited. 4) The king listened and took pity on his queen, Mordecai, and all the Jews and agreed to save their lives. 5) The king allowed Mordecai and Queen Esther to write the letter that would be sent throughout the country and would save the Jews.

God's will was done! The wicked Haman planned to kill Mordecai and wipe out the Jews. But instead, God saved the Jews, and Haman was hanged. There is no limit to what God can do to accomplish His will.

GOD'S WORD IN THE REAL WORLD

What a great God we serve. We've seen that God was in control of every detail in this lesson. Some people might say, "Wow, the Jews were really lucky that Esther became queen and that the king didn't kill her and that Haman didn't get his way and kill all the Jews!" Well, there is no such thing as luck! And we know that because we believe in God, the Creator of the Universe. He is the one who holds all things together by the power of His Word. Our God is in heaven, and He does all that He pleases! He is in charge of all the things that are going on. Our memory verse tells us that God holds the king's heart in His hand! God turns his heart in whichever direction He wishes. God knows what is going on, and God is directing all things the way He wants them.

➤ Pass out the Student Take Home Sheets and remind the students to practice the memory verse this week.

No, there is no such thing as luck. As children of God, we believe in the one true God who works out all things according to the purpose of His will.



MEMORY VERSE

Proverbs 21:1 The king's heart is in the hand of the Lord, like the rivers of water; He turns it wherever He wishes.



GROUP PRAYER TIME

- Praise God who is Sovereign. He controls all things, and we can trust Him in every situation.
- Ask God to give us courage and peace when we don't understand what is going on, and we are afraid or sad.