

What You Can't See

Items needed: A mostly full glass of water and a playing card or other stiff piece of waterproof paper. A cardboard square will work in a pinch, until the water soaks through.

Bible truth: God is there, even when you can't see him.

Bible verses: Esther 5:2 & 3- *When he saw Queen Esther standing in the court, he was pleased with her and held out to her the gold scepter that was in his hand. So Esther approached and touched the tip of the scepter. Then the king asked, "What is it, Queen Esther? What is your request? Even up to half the kingdom, it will be given you."*

1. Teach: *For preschool, kindergarten and first graders:* Have your learners dress up as a princess or superhero. Ask your kids what is so amazing about being a princess or a superhero.

For second grade and up: Have your learners scan the book of Esther and tell you the first place they see the words *LORD* or *God*. (There are 9 chapters in Esther. The words *LORD* and *God* are nowhere in the book.)

Esther is a queen. She is asked to be a superhero and save her people, the Jews, from all being killed. An evil man named Haman has made a plan to have all the Jews killed. Esther is afraid to ask the king for help because if she shows up before the king and he does not extend (point) his gold scepter (wand) toward Esther by law she will be killed right then.

Queen Esther, however, is the only one who can go and ask the king to save her people. Her cousin reminds her of this fact. Esther asks her cousin to have all the Jews pray that the king will listen to her, and not kill her. The Jews pray for Esther for three whole days. Then Esther goes to the king.

Read Esther 5:2 & 3. Does Esther lose her life? No! God heard the people's prayers. It even says that the king was pleased to see Esther. After having dinner with the king two nights in a row Esther finally tells the king what Haman has done and how Haman plans to kill Esther's people. The king gets angry and has Haman killed. The Jews are saved.

Even though God's name is not mentioned in the book of Esther, not even once, he is there moving and helping Esther and the Jewish people. They prayed and God listened. Not only did God listen, he worked in the king's heart to save God's people.

2. Do: Take the glass of water and place the playing card over the top of the glass. Make sure that the card covers the entire opening of the glass and there are no places for the water to leak out. Holding the card in place, quickly turn the glass over. Remove your hand from the card. The card should stay in place, as should the water in the glass. Amazing!

3. Discuss: Ask your learners if they see the force that is holding the card to the glass. No? Are you sure? Look hard. Still no? There are forces that we cannot see that make cards stick to glasses and hold the water in.

Just because you cannot see it does not mean it is not there. What are some other things that we cannot see, but are still there? (Germs, gravity, air, etc.) God is like those things. We cannot see God, but he is always with us.

By Jenni Langston
Memorial Church of Christ
Houston, Texas