



WEEK  
**FOUR**  
OCTOBER 2023

LARGE GROUP  
**3-5** YEAR  
-OLDS  
STAGE

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

10 MINUTES

## BIBLE STORY

I can be brave and help others.

**ESTHER**  
**ESTHER 2:21-8:17**

## MEMORY VERSE

"Be strong and courageous.  
Do not be afraid . . . for the Lord  
your God goes with you."

**DEUTERONOMY 31:6, NIV**

## KEY QUESTION

Who can help you be brave?

## BOTTOM LINE

God can help me be brave.

## BASIC TRUTH

God made me.

## LARGE GROUP

ENGAGE CHILDREN'S HEARTS THROUGH A DYNAMIC AND INTERACTIVE WORSHIP, BIBLE STORY, AND PRAYER EXPERIENCE IN A LARGE GROUP SETTING.

## WORSHIP

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Memory Verse Card" from Week One in Bible; instruments or music player; this month's worship song, "Be Brave," included in your monthly files; and "No Matter What I Know" available on OrangeKidsMusic.com; Optional Dance Moves Videos for "Be Brave," available in the Media Package if you subscribe or from OrangeKidsMusic.com, and "No Matter What I Know," available from OrangeKidsMusic.com

*Worship Leader enters.*

**WORSHIP LEADER:** "Well hello, everyone! My name is [your name]. Raise your hand if you're happy to be here today. Awesome! Turn to a friend and say, 'Are you ready to worship?' (Pause as children follow directions.) Are you ready to worship? Yay! Me, too!"

"Why do we worship God? Because He made us and loves us! He is worthy of praise because nothing and no one is more powerful than God! God will help us be brave and help others! **Who can help you be brave?"**

**CHILDREN AND WORSHIP LEADER: "God can help me be brave."**

**WORSHIP LEADER:** "That's right! Stand up and let's sing about how God can help us be brave!"

*Lead children in singing "Be Brave," this month's worship song.*

"What a great song! I know that God is with me, and God can help me be brave. That's what the Bible teaches us, too! Let's say our memory verse together."

*Lead children to say the memory verse with the motions.*

**WORSHIP LEADER:** "We can be strong and courageous because God goes with us! No matter what I know, no matter where I go. Let's sing this out!"

*Lead children in singing "No Matter What I Know."*

"When I feel scared, I know God never ever leaves! He can help us be strong and courageous! **Who can help you be brave?"**

**CHILDREN AND WORSHIP LEADER: "God can help me be brave."**



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**WORSHIP LEADER:** "Yes, **God can help me be brave.** [Transition] And now it's time to turn around, sit down, and shake the wiggles out (*wiggle hands*) so we can hear (*cup hands behind ears*) what the story's all about!"

Host enters as Worship Leader exits.

## INTRO SKETCH

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Red gloves, sweatband or mask, and cape from previous weeks; table; plush animals; and painter's tape

*Host enters, wearing the red costume from previous weeks.*

**HOST:** "Hey, friends! I'm so happy to see you here today at [your environment's name]. Are you happy to be here?"

*Look around then notice the tabletop.*

"Oh, my! It looks like my nephew was playing and left all these animals taped to the table! We should rescue them, Super Kids! Here we go!"

*Remove tape from one animal and set it up on the table.*

"There's one! But I have more to rescue. Do you think I can do it? I want to help ALL of these animals because they need my help! I better get busy. Now this one. (*Pull tape off of an animal.*) Poor buddy.

*Continue to pull off the tape and set up each plush animal on the table.*

"Whew! But look at how many animals I helped! Thanks for your encouragement. I think I'll take these animals back where they belong. See you later!"

*Storyteller enters as Host gathers the animals and exits.*

## STORY

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Bible, toy crown, and a hat to represent Haman (*not comical*); *Optional Story Images* and cardstock

*Storyteller enters carrying a Bible, crown, and hat.*

**STORYTELLER:** "Hey, friends! I'm [your name], and I want to share a true story from the Bible.

*Open the Bible for the children to see, then set it down.*

"There are several different people in today's story. Let me tell you who they are.

*Put on the crown.*

"First, we have a queen named Esther. What was the queen's name?"

**CHILDREN AND STORYTELLER:** "Esther."

**STORYTELLER:** "That's right.

*(Option: Display Story Image W4 01)*



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"Queen Esther was one of God's people, and she was a super brave helper.

*Take off the crown and put on the "Haman" hat.*

"Then, there was Haman. What was his name?"

**CHILDREN AND STORYTELLER:** "Haman."

**STORYTELLER:** "Good listening, friends. Haman worked for the king, but he did NOT love God.

*(Option: Display Story Image W4 02)*

"Haman tricked the king into making a plan that would hurt all of God's people! Oh, no! Everyone, show me your 'Oh, no' face!

*Demonstrate by putting hands on your cheeks and encourage children to do the same.*

"OH, NO! If the king hurts God's people, it will hurt Queen Esther's family.

*Remove the hat and put on the crown.*

"When Queen Esther heard about Haman's plan, she was so sad. She knew that she needed to help her family, God's people. She needed to talk to the king. But there was one BIG problem! Queen Esther knew that you needed a special invitation to go talk to the king.

"Esther was afraid because she might get in trouble for going to see the king without being invited. Queen Esther asked all of God's people to pray for her for three days. One, two, three. After they prayed, Esther was brave and went to see the king.

"And guess what? The king was happy to see Esther and invited her to come talk with him. Whew! Esther was so brave! She was STRONG and COURAGEOUS.

*Lead children to make the ASL for "strong:" Hold fists in front of body.*

"And she was able to talk to the king!

*(Option: Display Story Image W4 03)*

"Raise your hand if you want to know what she said to the king. *(Pause.)* Queen Esther invited the king and Haman *(quickly switch to the Haman hat)* to a special dinner. *(Switch back to the crown.)*

"Esther prepared a special meal for the king and Haman.

*(Option: Display Story Image W4 04)*

"During dinner, the king told Esther to ask for anything she wanted. That's when Esther knew she could help her people!



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Esther asked the king to stop Haman's (*quickly switch to ball cap*) mean plan and save her family and all of God's people. And guess what? The king said, 'Yes!' (*Switch back to the crown.*)

"Wow! Esther was brave, and she helped her people! God helped Esther be brave, and God can help you be brave too. **Who can help you be brave?"**

**CHILDREN AND STORYTELLER: "God can help me be brave."**

*Take off the crown and set it on the table.*

**STORYTELLER:** "That's right! God helped Esther, and God can help us be brave, too. One more time. **Who can help you be brave?"**

**CHILDREN AND STORYTELLER: "God can help me be brave."**

**STORYTELLER:** "It's true! **God can help me be brave.** [Transition] Our story time is over (*pick up Bible and close it*), but we're not through. Let's talk to God because God loves you!"

## PRAYER

**STORYTELLER:** "Dear God, we love You. Nothing is bigger or more powerful than You. Thank You for making Esther brave to help her people. We know You can make us brave helpers too! We love You. In Jesus' name, amen."

"Thanks for listening, friends. See you next time."

*Host enters as Storyteller exits with the Bible, crown, and hat.*

## OUTRO SKETCH

**WHAT YOU NEED:** No supplies needed.

*Host enters.*

**HOST:** "Wow! Esther was very brave, and she helped a lot of people. **God can help you be brave!** Helping others is so brave, it's super!"

"I think I (*point to self*) got the story. Did you (*point to children*) get it? If you did, say, 'Got it!' Get it?" (*Cup one hand behind ear.*)

**CHILDREN AND HOST:** "Got it!"

**HOST:** (*Give two thumbs-up.*) "Good! [Transition] And now it's time for more Bible fun. There's more to learn. Come on, everyone!"

*Host dismisses small groups and exits.*