

# Lesson 15: Queen Esther

## Purpose for the Lesson

Children will learn that Mordecai showed love. They will remember that "We should love."

## Plan Ahead for the Night

### Items needed for this lesson

Story: Bible, crown, Queen Esther story, story time stamps

Craft: Sample craft, yarn-tipped lanyard, heart die-cut, single hole punch, small colorful beads, cut straw pieces, small sticker-backed jewels, Bible verse sticker, markers

Snack: Napkins

Game: None

Activity Page: "What Starts with 'L'?" page, crayons, pencils

## Present the Lesson!

### Memory Verse:

*Our memory verse this week is Love is patient, love is kind.*

**1 Corinthians 13:4 NIV**

Make up simple motions for the verse and do the verse several times together.

**Object:** Put the crown on your head and ask the students to tell you who wears a crown. Then tell them to listen to find out how a pretty young girl became the queen in today's story.

### **Bible Story: Esther 1-2**

*There once was a king named Ahasuerus who gave a big party for all his princes and attendants, the officers of the army, and the princes in the surrounding area. This party lasted for six months, and the king used this time to display his riches and all his splendor. At the end of the six months, the king gave a big banquet and invited everyone in his kingdom to come to the king's palace to eat and drink. At the end of the banquet, the king sent for Queen Vashti. He wanted to show everyone how beautiful she was, but the queen refused to come. This made the king angry. He asked his advisors what the law said he should do since the queen did not obey him. They said that she should not be allowed to be queen anymore since she didn't listen to the king. So the king did as they suggested and sent Vashti away, but after a while he became lonely and wished for another queen to take her place.*

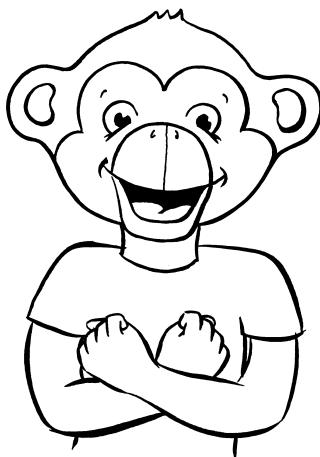
*The king's attendants went out into all the land to search for a beautiful young lady to be the next queen. They gathered up all the beautiful ladies and took them back to the king's palace to take turns standing before King Ahasuerus so that he could choose the one he liked the best. One of the beautiful ladies was a young Jewish girl, named Esther, who lived with her Uncle Mordecai. Esther went back to the king's palace where she was treated very kindly and given perfume, makeup, food and helpers to take care of her. Esther did not tell anyone that she was a Jew, as her Uncle Mordecai had told her not to tell anyone this. Everyday, Mordecai came to the palace court to check and see how Esther was doing. After Esther had lived there for a whole year, it was her turn to go in and see the king. When the king saw Esther, he loved her more than any of the other women and was very kind to her. He chose her to be his next queen and set the royal crown on her head to show everyone.*

*Mordecai continued to come everyday and sat at the king's gate so that he could check on Esther. One day, while he was sitting at the gate, he heard two of the king's workers making a plan to hurt the king. Mordecai told Queen Esther and she told the king so that the king was not hurt. Mordecai showed his love for Esther by checking on her everyday and by protecting the king. God wants us to show love also.*

## Story Questions:

1. *What did the king do at the beginning of our story?* (Gave a big party)
2. *How long did the party last?* (Six months)
3. *Who did the king ask to come to the party on the last day?* (Queen Vashti)
4. *Did she come?* (No)
5. *How did the king look for a new queen?* (He gathered up all the beautiful young ladies in the country)
6. *Who became the next queen?* (Esther)
7. *Thumbs up or down. Did the king know that Esther was Jewish?*  
(Thumbs down)
8. *How did Mordecai show love?* (He checked on Esther everyday and protected the king)
9. *How can you show love this week?* (Answers will vary)

**Lesson Value:** Go over the value and sign for this week's lesson. "We should love." Have all children do the sign for "love" by crossing their arms against their chest as if giving a hug. Say the value while signing.



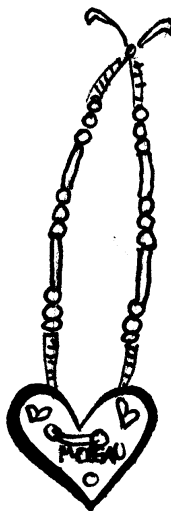
## Craft: Jeweled Necklace

### Materials Needed:

- Yarn tipped lanyard
- Heart die-cut
- Single hole punch
- Small colorful beads
- Cut straw pieces
- Small sticker-backed jewels
- Bible verse sticker
- Markers

### Directions:

1. Use the hole punch to place two holes at the top of the heart.
2. Have the children string the hearts onto the lanyards.
3. The children will place the Bible sticker across one side of the heart, and write their names on the other.
4. The children will stick on the jeweled pieces.
5. The children will string beads and straw pieces on each side of the lanyard.
6. The leaders will tie the lanyard to make a necklace.



## Games

### Honey, Do You Love Me?

- Objective: To have fun together
- Items Needed: None
- How to Play:
  - Children form a circle with one person in the middle to be "it."
  - That person must approach another child in the circle and ask him/her, "Honey, do you love me?"
  - The person questioned must answer, "Honey, I love you but I just can't smile!" without smiling.
  - If he or she does smile, he or she becomes the next "it."
  - If he or she doesn't smile, "it" goes on to another person and asks the same question again.
  - The person who is "it" can make as many funny faces as he/she wants but cannot touch the other players.

## Proceed to Next Week

Call each child in your group.

If you're having trouble thinking about what to ask the kids in your group, try these.

1. *Do you like to pretend to be a king (or a queen)? What kind of laws would you make if you were the king (or queen)?*
2. *Mordecai showed love. How do you show love to your family?*
3. *How are you doing on your Kid's Quest homework? Can you say the verse to me? **Love is patient. Love is kind. 1 Corinthians 13:4 NIV***

Tell the kids something that will happen next week to get them excited about coming back.

Remind them to bring their Kid's Quest binder and book bag.

If it is his/her turn for snack, ask to speak to a parent and remind the parent about snack. Give any guidance on preferred foods, if you have any kids with food allergies in your group or if you don't want them to bring sweets, etc.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

# What Starts with “L”?

Love starts with the letter “L.” Can you find all the things that start with “L” and color them? Look for: Lemon, Leaf, Lion, Light, Ladybug, Lips, Little Girl, Lollipop, Lighthouse, Ladder, and Lizard.



***Love is patient, love is kind.***  
**1 Corinthians 13:4 NIV**