

The Parent Connection



Guide for: *Queen Esther the Morning Star* by Mordecai Gerstein

Child's Name

Date Completed:

Understanding the Story

1. Why didn't Esther tell the King that she was Jewish?
2. Why did Mordecai refuse to bow down to Haman?
3. Why did Haman want to kill all of the Jews?
4. Why was Esther afraid to speak to the King about Haman's plan?

Words to Watch

1. King Ahasuerus
2. satraps-governors of provinces in ancient Persia
3. Queen Vashti
4. Esther- means morning star
5. sackcloth-coarse cloth worn as a symbol of penitence or mourning
6. "pur"-lots
7. gallows- an upright frame for hanging condemned persons.
8. cubits-an ancient measure of length, about 18"-22".

Jewish Concepts

1. Purim is another Jewish holiday celebrating the Jews' victory over someone who wanted to destroy them.
2. Jews have the right to practice Judaism and worship God in our own way. We don't have to do things the same way that others around us do.

Beyond the Book

1. Have you ever had someone who wanted you to do something that you knew wasn't right? What did you do?

2. Queen Esther was afraid when she went to speak to the King, yet she went anyway. When you're afraid, how do you use your own bravery?

Complementary Activities

Discuss the many times in history when the Jews have triumphed over adversity. (i.e. the Chanukah story, or the Passover story when we were slaves in Egypt)

✓ *Please check those activities completed.*