

FALL 2026

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PERSONAL
STUDY GUIDE



Stories from Esther
Stories About Rebuilding Jerusalem
Songs from Psalms

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PERSONAL STUDY GUIDE

FALL 2026

Volume 21 • Number 1

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ABCs of Salvation

A—ADMIT

Admit to God that you are a sinner.
Repent, turning away from your sin.
Read Romans 3:23; Romans 6:23; Acts 3:19.

B—BELIEVE

By faith receive Jesus Christ as God's Son.
Accept Jesus's gift of forgiveness from sin.
Read John 3:16; John 14:6; Acts 4:12;
Romans 5:8; Ephesians 2:8-9; John 1:11-13.



C—CONFESS

Confess your faith in Jesus Christ as
Savior and Lord. Read 1 John 1:9;
Romans 10:9-10,13.

If you are choosing right now to believe Jesus died for your sins and to receive new life through Him, pray to God, calling upon Him alone to be your Savior and Lord.

After you have received Jesus into your life, share your decision with another person. Follow Christ's example by asking for baptism by immersion in your local church as a public expression of your faith (Romans 6:4; Colossians 2:6).





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A Bible study guide for adults and older youth

Fall 2026

Volume 21, Number 1

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STORIES FROM ESTHER

Memory Verse

Perhaps you have come to your royal position
for such a time as this.

Esther 4:14



SEPTEMBER 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 LABOR DAY	8	9	10	11 PATRIOT DAY	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23 FIRST DAY OF AUTUMN	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

BRAVE ESTHER



Read Esther 4:1–5:2 in your Bible.

A few years after King Darius put Daniel in the lions' den, Ahasuerus became king of Persia. Vashti was his queen—until the day she refused to obey the king. Then Ahasuerus had her removed.

Esther was Jewish. She lived with her cousin Mordecai. King Ahasuerus was pleased with Esther. He loved her and chose her as his queen. He did not know she was Jewish.

Haman was the highest official other than the king. The king ordered everyone to show honor and respect to Haman. Everyone obeyed the order except Mordecai. Then Haman found out Mordecai was a Jew. He decided to punish not only Mordecai, but all Jewish people.

Haman convinced the king to write a new law: “On the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, kill all the Jews living in the kingdom. Kill them all—young, old, men, women, and children.”

Copies of the law went to every city. Everyone was confused. Why did the king want to kill all the Jews? All the Jewish people cried and mourned. Mordecai tore his clothes. He put on sackcloth. He covered his head with ashes. He stood in front of the palace gates and cried loudly.

Queen Esther heard Mordecai was terribly upset. She sent her servant Hathach to talk with Mordecai and find out what was wrong.

Mordecai told Hathach: “Haman has ordered the death of all the Jewish people in the kingdom.” He gave Hathach a copy of the law. “Show this to the queen. Explain it to her. Tell her to go to the king. She must beg the king to save her people.”

Hathach took Mordecai's message to Queen Esther. Esther shook her head. "I cannot do it. Everyone knows the law. No one can go to the king unless invited. The king has not invited me to visit for thirty days. If I go uninvited, he will kill me. The only way I would survive is if the king is happy to see me and holds out his golden scepter."

Hathach told Mordecai what Esther said. Mordecai sent back a message: "Do you think you are safe from Haman's law? You are Jewish too! You can keep silent and do nothing to save your people. God will surely save them in some other way. But you and all your family will be killed. Maybe, just maybe, God made you queen for such a time as this."

Esther agreed. She sent word to Mordecai: "Bring together all the Jews. Tell them to fast for me for three days. I will do the same. Then I will go see the king. If I die trying to save my people, then I will die."

Three days later, Esther dressed up and went to see the king. The king was happy to see Esther. He held out his scepter and welcomed her.

BIBLE VERSE

WRITE THE VERSE IN YOUR OWN WORDS.

*Uphold the rights
of the oppressed
and the destitute.*

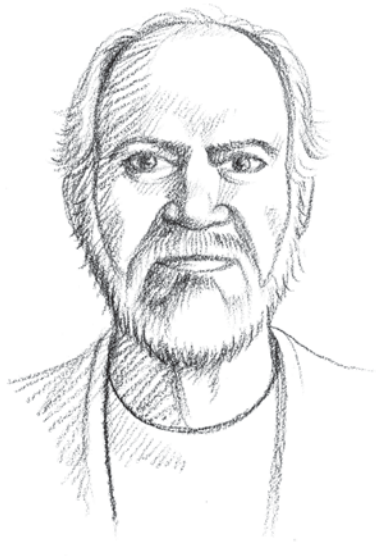
Psalm 82:3

Yes or No?

Color the pictures.
Answer the questions.

What did Mordecai ask
Esther to do?

Did Esther say yes or no
to Mordecai?



MY DAILY BIBLE READINGS

DAY 1

Read Esther 4:1-7. What wrong was going to be done?

DAY 2

Read Esther 4:8-9. What did Mordecai want Esther to do about Haman's evil plan?

DAY 3

Read Esther 4:10-16. What did Esther decide to do about Haman's evil plan?

DAY 4

Read Psalm 82:3. What does the Bible tell us to do when we know about wrong being done to someone?

DAY 5

Read Psalm 82:3. Circle any of these wrongs you have spoken up against.

stealing bullying lying

cheating gossiping being mean

DAY 6

Read Esther 4:16 and Psalm 82:3. There are no guarantees something good will happen when you speak up against wrong. Is it still the right thing to do?

This Week's Prayer List

Get Ready for Next Week's Bible Study

Read Esther 5:9–6:14 before going to your Bible study group.