**Week of:**  **Stand: Don’t Face Your Fears Alone -Week 4** **Preteen**

**November 27, 2022**

**Today’s Bible Story:** Stand Up (Esther) • *The Book of Esther*

**Today’s Key Question:** When have you done something you were afraid to do?

**Today’s Bottom Line:** You can do what you should even when you don’t know what will happen.

**Monthly Memory Verse:** *Be strong and brave. Do not be afraid. Do not lose hope. I am the Lord your God. I will be with you everywhere you go.* Joshua 1:9b *(NIrV)*

**Monthly Virtue:** Courage—Being brave enough to do what you should do, even when you are afraid.

**Basic Truth:** I can trust God no matter what.

**Activity:** Don’t Quote Me

**What you need:** Bible or Bible app

**(After the Video) What You Do:**

* Tell your child they’re going to come up with a 10-word quote for someone from today’s story.
* Let them choose one of the following:
	+ Esther
	+ Mordecai
	+ Haman
	+ Xerxes, King of Persia
* Give your child a few quiet moments to think of their quote.
* Let them refer to the story in Esther for inspiration, if necessary.
* Then guide them to stand up and declare their 10-word quote as if they were actually their person assigned from the story.

**Ask:**

* + “How did Esther demonstrate courage?”
	+ “Esther had courage to believe that God could do the impossible and save her people. Do you think it’s possible to have that same kind of courage today? Why or why not? What might it look like if we did?”
	+ “When you are tempted to chicken out or give up, what could help you stand strong instead? What are things you can do to have courage when you don’t know what will happen?”
	+ “When have you done something you were afraid to do? Did you feel God’s presence with you?”

**Prayer:**

“Dear God, we have learned about so many amazing and courageous heroes this month. Thank You for the examples of Esther, David, Daniel, Joshua, and Caleb. Even though they lived thousands of years ago and faced many situations we will never face, we know that the same courage You gave them is something we can have, too. Please show us how to be heroes for You by doing what we should even when we don’t know what will happen. We believe You are always with us and can help us when we are alone or afraid. In Jesus’ name, amen.”

