



Grace Church Elementary

# Camp Grace

## LESSON 43 SKIT

**Principle:** We are here to fulfill God's purpose, even if it means sacrifice.

**Bible Character(s):** Esther

**Scripture Reference:** Esther 2-7



**PERSONAL PREPARATION:** Before this weekend, please read through Esther 2-7.

We are going to focus on God's plan and purpose for Esther's life, and the sacrifice required of Esther to fulfill His plan. God used Esther to deliver the Israelites from death. This physical deliverance is a picture of what Jesus does for us. He saved us from our sin through His sacrificial death on the cross. Are you being obedient to God so that He can use you to fulfill His purpose? Are you willing to sacrifice your desires to follow Christ? Spend some time in prayer, and ask God to show you how to be more obedient to Him.



### **BIG GROUP TIME - 35-40 minutes** \*Bring your cabin flag to Big Group.

#### **1) Run-through/Prayer**

Run-through order of service (assigned parts, transitions, slides for music and skit, video if applicable, etc.), assign door greeters, pray

#### **2) Welcome Cabins**

#### **3) Intro Song**

#### **4) Camp Competition**

##### Lung Capacity

Have one camper from each cabin come up to the front and give each a balloon. Explain that each camper only gets one breath to blow up his or her balloon as big as possible. Give the campers a countdown from three, then let them blow up their balloons. After the campers have blown up their balloons, compare the sizes and give the banner to the camper with the largest balloon.

## 5) Worship

### Worship Connector

What would you do if your parents told you they had something amazing for you, but you would need to give up your favorite possession in order to get it? It can be really hard to give up something we cherish. God has an amazing plan for each one of us, but He asks us to give something up so that His plan can be fulfilled. He asks us to give up our life to Him because we were created to fulfill His purpose. Today we are going to see how a woman named Esther gives up her life to be obedient to God's purpose, and how God uses her to save the Israelites. As we sing this next song, let's think about how God can use us every day if we choose to live for Him.

## 6) Skit

### Raised Up to Solve a Crisis

#### ProPresenter:

None

#### Characters:

Storyteller

Staff Member #1: Safety Inspector (represents Esther; needs to be played by female staff)

#### Props:

Long black wig (Esther's hair)

Crown (represents King Xerxes)

2 signs: Esther, Beautiful Girl, Queen of Persia // King Xerxes, Mean King of Persia

String

Hole Punch

Clipboard (for Safety Instructor)

Hard hat (for Safety Instructor)

\*\*\*As the storyteller begins to tell the story, he gives the wig and Esther sign to the Camp Safety Inspector. As he begins talking about King Xerxes, he puts on the crown and the King Xerxes sign. Use the hole punch and string to create a necklace that will allow volunteer to hang sing around their neck.

#### Script:

Staff Member: (Come to the stage, sit on the edge and look miserable. Sigh and make noises to let the campers know how miserable you are.)

Storyteller: (Enter without noticing the Staff Member on the stage right away. Address the campers.) **What's up Camp Grace campers?! It's so good to see you all here today. I'm so excited about our story today. It's one of my absolute favorites. In fact, I brought in some props to use as I tell the story so that... (Go to the stage to sit on the edge. Almost sit on the Staff Member.) Oh! I'm so sorry! I didn't see you there. Why didn't you say something?**

Staff Member: (Sigh miserably.) It's okay.

Storyteller: Hey! Weren't you just named the Camp Safety Inspector?

Staff Member: Yes. Camp Safety Inspector, that's me, all right. (Sigh)

Storyteller: I know that many of our staff members interviewed for that position. Out of all of them, you were selected. That's incredible. It's a huge honor to be Camp Safety Inspector. So, I have to ask you, why do you seem so down?

Staff Member: Well, I'm in a tough situation. I don't know what to do. I thought I could handle being Camp Safety Inspector. I never expected something like this.

Storyteller: Something like what? What's going on?

Staff Member: Well, I was inspecting the cabins. I came to Cabin #15 and found that the counselor in that cabin had a mini refrigerator, a hot plate, and a microwave in her room.

Storyteller: Wow! Someone is planning to snack a lot this year. I'm not sure what the problem is, though. Is there something wrong with having appliances in the cabin?

Staff Member: According to ordinance 7b, section 9, it is unlawful for a counselor to have any electrical cooking appliance or device that may produce heat from an electrical source on the premises of Camp Grace. Also, according to ordinance 7b, section 10, it is unlawful for a counselor to have an appliance that uses more than 750 watts of electricity on the premises of Camp Grace. The scene in Cabin #15 was an infraction of both these ordinances.

Storyteller: Wow! You really know your stuff. If the counselor has broken a rule, simply write them a warning and give them time to make things right.

Staff Member: It's not that easy. This counselor is the niece of our Camp Director. I really like my job. I have wanted to be Camp Safety Inspector since I began working at Camp Grace. If I write the Camp Director's niece a warning for her infraction, I could very well lose my job. I just don't know what to do.

Storyteller: When I was coming in, I was very excited about today's story. This story might help you. Here, I brought in some props to use. You can help. Just put this on. (Give the Safety Inspector the wig and the sign.) Okay?

Staff Member: Okay.

Storyteller: His story is about a Jewish girl named Esther. (Point to the Safety Inspector.) She was an orphan. She had no parents. So, her Uncle Mordecai took her in. He loved her and treated her as if she were his very own daughter.

Staff Member: Oh, I vaguely remember hearing this story before. In this story, Esther was incredibly beautiful.

Storyteller: You're right. She was one of the most beautiful girls around. (Point to the Safety Inspector.) Now, at the same time that Esther lived, there was a very mean king. (The Storyteller should put on the crown and the sign.) His name was Xerxes. He had a terrible temper. In fact, one night he wanted to parade his beautiful wife, the queen, in front of his friends. He wanted to show off. The queen was embarrassed. She didn't want to walk in front of his friends like this. King Xerxes lost his temper and fired the queen on the spot.

Staff Member: He was mad! Just because she didn't want to be paraded around in front of his friends, he kicked her out?

Storyteller: He sure did. But after that, he knew he needed a new queen. He sent men to search for the most beautiful girl in all the kingdom. They found many pretty girls, but one was more beautiful than any of the others.

Staff Member: Was it Esther?

Storyteller: (Point to Safety Inspector.) It was Esther. She was the most beautiful girl in the kingdom and Xerxes wanted her to be queen.

Staff Member: Xerxes may have been king, but he was a mean man with a bad temper. (Point to Storyteller.) Esther shouldn't marry someone like that.

Storyteller: Because Xerxes was king, he called the shots. Esther couldn't say no. So, Xerxes, the mean king (Point to self.) gets the most beautiful woman in the kingdom as his new queen. Esther became the new queen of Persia. One day when her uncle, Mordecai, was near the city gate, a man who worked for the king passed by. This man was named Haman. Haman hated all Jews. As he passed by Mordecai, he became angry because Mordecai did not bow to him. He knew Mordecai was a Jewish man and he thought all Jews should bow to him. He became so angry about Mordecai that he decided he would have all the Jews in the whole kingdom killed.

Staff Member: Are you serious?! This man, Haman, was going to kill all Jews because one Jew didn't bow?! How could he do that?

Storyteller: Haman was a powerful man. As I said, he worked for the king. He knew he could convince the king to go along with his plan to kill all the Jews. Mordecai knew that the only hope for his people, the Jews, was his niece, Esther, (point to Safety Inspector) the new queen of Persia.

Staff Member: How could Esther save the Jews? If she went to the king without his permission, she might be killed.

Storyteller: It was a difficult situation, but Esther put her trust in God and waited for her chance to speak with the king. That night, God began working in the king's heart. (Point to self.) Xerxes couldn't sleep. He got up to look over some of his records. As he looked through the royal records, he found that a man named Mordecai had saved the king's life once and had never been recognized for such a heroic deed. King Xerxes (point to self) decided he had to do something about it.

Staff Member: Do you mean to tell me that it's the same Mordecai who raised Esther?

Storyteller: That's the one. Well, the next morning, Esther (point to Safety Inspector) got her chance to speak with the king. She told him that Haman was angry with a man named Mordecai and that he had plans to kill Mordecai along with all of the Jews in the kingdom.

Staff Member: What did the king do?

Storyteller: Well, the king had a temper, remember? (Point to sign around your neck.) He got very angry that one of his head men would try to kill a man who had once saved the king's life. So, he had Haman killed and the Jews were saved.

Staff Member: That's an exciting story. (Both staff members take off the props for the point of the skit.) Queen Esther risked her life to save the lives of all the Jews in the kingdom. She was courageous. I forgot about my problem for a minute. Thanks for the distraction.

Storyteller: This was more than a distraction. There's real help for you in this story.

Staff Member: What is it?

Storyteller: God had a plan in making Esther the Queen of Persia. He used her to save the Jews of the kingdom. God has a plan for you, too. He made you the Camp Safety Inspector for a reason. He put you in a position of authority. Now, Esther trusted God enough to take a risk for what was right. You have to take a risk for what is right, too. You need to write the counselor of Cabin #15 a warning just as you would anyone else.

Staff Member: Yes, but like I was trying to tell you, the counselor is the niece of the Camp Director. I might lose my job if I write her a warning. I really like this job. I don't want to lose it.

Storyteller: You might lose your job. But, what I want you to remember is that God has a plan for you. He put you in this position for a reason. You just need to trust Him.

Staff Member: I guess you're right. I need to trust that God had a reason for putting me in this position. I need to trust Him as I stand up for what is right.

Storyteller: We all need to remember that God has a plan for our lives. We need to trust Him and do what's right, even if there's risk involved. Let's pray.

Father, thank You for the example of Esther's life that we can trust You to lead us. Thank You for having a purpose for our lives and for being with us in every situation. Help us trust You, even when there's risk involved. Amen.



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