



Be Strong and Brave

Queen Esther Helps God's People
Esther 2:7,9; 4:14-16; 5:1-2; 7:1-3

When Granny B entered the barn, her eyes grew wide. There was a throne in the middle of the barn floor! As she admired it, she heard Delbert and Lello coming up behind her.

"Hello, little ones. Did you build this?" Granny B asked.

"Haw! Do you like it? Lello helped me build it. We decided a king needed a throne," Delbert said excitedly, as he sat down on the throne.

Granny B smiled. "You did a wonderful job."

Lello explained that after hearing about Nehemiah and the people working together to rebuild the city wall, they decided to build a throne. "Baa. It was a lot of work, but we had lots of fun, too," Lello added joyfully.

"I came looking for you because I just read a story in my Bible that I think you will enjoy, Lello," Granny B said, as she sat down on a nearby bale of hay. She patted the hay next to her and motioned for Delbert and Lello to sit down.

"What's the story about?" Delbert asked, as he flopped down on the hay.

"It's about a queen," Granny B said softly.

"A queen? Really?" Lello asked with excitement.

"Yes, her name was Queen Esther. God made her queen. God also made her beautiful and brave." Granny B explained.

Delbert scrunched his face and asked, "Why did she need to be brave?"

"Queen Esther wanted to help save God's people. She bravely decided to go to the powerful king to ask him for help," Granny B answered. "But, no one could see the king unless he held out his golden scepter for her to touch."

"Haw! I have a scepter!" Delbert exclaimed. "But, mine isn't made of gold."

Granny B replied, "Kings hold a scepter or long stick to remind the people that he is an important person."

"Oooh, Queen Esther was really brave. I don't know if I could be that brave," Lello said in awe.

Delbert nudged Lello, "Haw! Sure you could, Lello. God helped Queen Esther be brave and God can help you be brave, too!"

"Did the king listen to her?" Lello asked hopefully.

Granny B nodded, "Yes and he agreed to help save her people."

"Baa, a queen...a brave queen," Lello whispered to herself.

Delbert jumped up off the hay and ran over to the throne. He pulled out his crown and raced back to put it on Lello's head.

"I have a great idea! Granny B, would you read the story of Queen Esther out loud? Lello, you can be Queen Esther and I'll be the king. Won't that be fun? We can make up our own play and show Pops when he gets back this afternoon!" Delbert exclaimed.

"What a great idea, Delbert," Granny B said. So, the three set to work preparing their play. They were all excited to share the story of Queen Esther with Pops.