



Queen Esther Helps Save God's People

Esther 2:7, 17-20; 3:3-6; 4:12-16

Running time: Approximately 6 minutes

Setting: The set for Units 7-10 is designed to look like the outside of the King City Herald, a large newspaper building circa 1940's. A door leads to the office. A phone booth provides the place for the superheroes' quick costume changes. The center panel can be removed to reveal the superheroes "Secret Lab," filled with screens and gadgets (similar to Batman's Bat Cave), where the heroes watch over the city. There is a useable fire escape with a door and a ladder down to ground level. There is a ramp on stage right. For added interest, build windows, entrances, and levels where the characters and puppets can pop up unexpectedly.

Characters: Scoop Gibson is a street-wise, savvy reporter who hides his secret identity as superhero "Scripture Guy." Kasey Carter is a young, college-educated reporter (can be male or female) whose secret identity is superhero "Kingdom Crusader." The Philistine was an evil enemy who has changed his ways. The Obliterator wants to take over King City (appears on video or on a side stage).

Plot: Scripture Guy is leading the teams that are defending the city walls. He tells Kingdom Crusader to wait in the lab in case she is needed. She reads the book of Esther for encouragement. The Obliterator and the Philistine fight it out. Kingdom Crusader must make a difficult choice to save King City. We learn God often puts us at the right place at the right time so that we can glorify Him.

Costumes: Kasey: Fedora, 1940's Zoot suit (high-waist, wide-legged, tight-cuffed pegged trousers, long coat with wide lapels and wide

padded shoulders) or 1940's dress suit (padded shoulders, thin belt), Superhero costumes (worn underneath by Kasey): capes, face masks, body suit, tights, etc., "SG" emblem on Scripture Guy costume, "KC" emblem on Kingdom Crusader costume. Philistine: Black robe, red mask, Princess Leia wig, Obliterator: helmet, goggles, leopard coat, gloves

Props: Bible, crown, cape, bowler hat, fake mustache, "Wisdom Cube," "Plutonium Heart"

Sound effects (SFX):

1. Intro/Outro music suggestion: Heroic music
2. Newspaper box: "Good news" or other triumphant song clip. Music plays when box is opened to reveal the Bible.
3. Electrical static (on video)
4. Explosion (on video)
5. High frequency sound (On video)

Visual effects (VFX):

1. Video Intro featuring superheroes is available at ResourceWell.org
2. Video of Philistine and Obliterator available at ResourceWell.org
3. Fallback slide reads "King City Chronicles"
4. A newspaper box holds the Bible. When opened, light shines out and music plays.
5. Scripture Slide: ***"Who knows but that you have come to royal position for such a time as this?" Esther 4:14b***
6. "Alert!" sign
7. Shockwaves, explosion, and test pattern (on video)
8. Motto Slide: ***"We Give Everything to Honor Our King!"***

Adaptations:

1. Sound Effects: instead of using recorded effects, have children make the sounds
2. Voiceovers: may be spoken off stage
3. This illustration is also available in storybook form at ResourceWell.org

King City Chronicles

Unit 9, Lesson 47

**Queen Esther Helps Save God's People
Esther 2:7, 17-20; 3:3-6; 4:12-16**

Voiceover (VFX: short video intro)

Dateline: King City, a city devoted to the glory of God. But in her dark underbelly, there are villains gathering ... evil men who seek to steal God's glory! Will King City find her hero? Can she be saved and restored to her former glory? For the answer to these questions and more, tune in every week to the King City Chronicles!

Kingdom Crusader

Hey guys, Kingdom Crusader here. Oh boy, alot has happened since last time. We finished building the wall around King City but the Obliterator and his army of bad guys tried to blast a hole in it. We had to fight them back and rebuild the wall at the same time. It's been a tough week but we have to protect the people from those who would harm them. That's what super heroes do. We got a call today warning us that the Obliterator's army is preparing for another attack. So, Scripture Guy called the police and the National Guard to reinforce the wall. But, I got stuck here holding down the fort. I wish I could be out there bravely battling those bad guys! All this waiting is driving me crazy.

Maybe, if I focus on God's Word it will take my mind off my worries. I'll get the Bible right now! (She opens box, SFX: Good News, VFX: Beam of light shines from box) **Here we are. The Book of Esther. This is a very comforting story. Did you know Esther was a beautiful, young, Jewish girl who didn't know God was going to call her to do an important job? God can use anyone, no matter how young or small, if you are**

brave enough to answer His call! Hey, I've got an idea. Let's get a brave, young girl to play Esther. And we'll need a king and someone who can play a good, bad guy named Haman. (Choose 3 volunteers.) **All right, King Xerxes you put on your crown.** (Place crown on King.) **Esther, here's your cape and Haman you wear this hat.** (Put cape on Esther and bowler hat on Haman.) **You'll need a mustache, too.** (Haman holds fake mustache above his mouth.)

Now, Esther lived in a time when King Xerxes was searching for a wife. He was having a sort of beauty contest to find the most beautiful girl in the land. Esther's uncle, Mordecai –I'll play him—he told Esther to go and let the king see her beauty. As the king of Persia, King Xerxes would not have believed in God. Mordecai warned Esther not to tell the king she was one of God's people.

King Xerxes fell in love with Esther and married her right away. See that, it's kind of a love story. All the girls say, "Aah!" (response) **All the boys say, "Yuck!"** (response) **Don't worry boys, there's action and adventure on the way! One of the king's advisors was a man named Haman.** (Point to Haman.) **That's you! Let's hear an evil laugh.** (Haman laughs.) **Excellent! Haman hated Mordecai, that's me, for not bowing down to him. So, Haman tricked King Xerxes into passing a law that said God's people would be put to death! Everyone say, "Woah!"** (response) **I know, right!**

Uncle Mordecai paid a visit to Queen Esther. He asked her to ask the king to save God's people. Esther reminded him that if anyone went to the king without first being invited, he or she could be punished with death. Still, Mordecai knew God's people would die unless she risked her life and went to the king. (VFX: Scripture Slide) **Here's what the Bible says he said to her: "Who knows but that you have come to royal position for such a time as this?"**

Now, Esther had a very important decision to make. If she was brave and went to the king, there was a chance she would be punished with death. That was a very hard decision, but Esther was a very brave and godly young lady. What do you think she did? (response) **You're right. She did what was right and went to the king. She asked him to save her people and in the end, that's just what he did! First, he punished Haman for trying to harm the queen and God's people. He ordered Haman to be hung from the gallows. Everyone say, "Oooh!"** (response)

Then, the king passed a law that saved the lives of Queen Esther and God's people! Everyone say, "Whew!" (response) **God used Esther to help save the His people! Let's have a big round of applause!** (response)

You guys we're great! Let's have a big round of applause for Haman, our king, and our brave Queen Esther! Have a seat.

Wow, that was a great story. You never know how God is going to use you. Who knows, maybe God has placed me here to do something special.

Voiceover
(VFX: "Alert" sign) **Incoming Message! Incoming Message! Stand by for a message from the King City wall.**

Kingdom Crusader
Hey! Finally some action!

The Obliterator (on stage or interactive video)
Hello there, losers! You thought your puny wall could hold back my greatness? Ha, I laugh at your wall! My army has distracted the police and now I am coming for you!

Kingdom Crusader
Oh no!

The Obliterator
Oh yes! King City, you cannot escape the Obliterator! Nothing can stop me now!

The Philistine (on stage or interactive video)
Nothing except the Philistine!

Obliterator
Philistine! I thought I kicked you out! What are you doing here?

The Philistine
Putting a stop to your madness!

Obliterator
Ha! You don't have the power to stop me!

The Philistine (enters holding heart)
Oh no? I gave my heart to Jesus and now His power lives in me! Besides, I have this! (holds up heart)

Obliterator
It can't be!

The Philistine
It can be! It's the Plutonium Heart!

Obliterator
You forget, Philistine, I have the Reverse Wisdom Cube!

The Philistine
That would explain your lack of wisdom!

Obliterator
Oh no, you didn't! You bring on some of that snooty attitude!

The Philistine (they clinch)
It's already been brought!

Kingdom Crusader
No, Uncle Phil! (The Obliterator and the Philistine clash in battle until the Obliterator gets the upper hand.)

Obliterator
Aha! I've got you right where I want you, Philistine!

The Philistine (to Kingdom Crusader)
Help me! He's too strong. I can't hold him. Hit the button.

Kingdom Crusader

What?

The Philistine

Hit the button. I installed a large red button in the lab. Hit that button and it will send shock waves down the wall.

Kingdom Crusader

But that could cause the Plutonium Heart to explode!

The Philistine

I know but that's a chance I'll have to take. Perhaps, I have come to King City for such a time as this!

Obliterator

Stop talking to the camera and prepare to be obliterated!

The Philistine

Hit the button, now!

Kingdom Crusader

Okay! (Pushes button, SFX: Electrical static, VFX: Shockwaves)

Obliterator

Give me that heart! Wah, ah, wah, ah, wah!

The Philistine

I will never give my heart to you! (Both fall off the wall, SFX/VFX: Explosion)

Obliterator

I'll be baaaack! (SFX: High frequency sound, VFX: Test pattern)

Kingdom Crusader

Uncle Phil! Oh no! He risked his life for the sake of King City! Just like Esther, he bravely put his people before his own safety. I've got to get to the wall and make sure he's all right! See you later, kids! I give everything to honor our King!

(SFX: "Heroic music," VFX: Motto Slide)