

## Sunday School Home Activities - Week of August 15, 2021



Weekly home activities, great for the whole family, are designed to guide children from Nursery thru 5<sup>th</sup> grade and their families in Bible stories, engaging experiences, spiritual practices, and opportunities for reflection. Pick one to two activities to do with your family each week. Contact Kathy Schmucker, Spiritual Formation Director, for more information. [kschmucker@faithumchurch.org](mailto:kschmucker@faithumchurch.org)

### Welcome to Wonder

*Prepare Ahead: As a family, create a Wonder Table. Find a small table or area in your home. On the table place a candle, a plant or flower, and any other special items you want to include. Use this space while gathering as a family to engage in the lesson or online worship together.*

### Wonder with Me - READ the Bible Story - Read the Bible story, Book of Esther

- Roll the Wonder Cube. Take time to answer a few of the questions. *A copy of the Wonder Cube for this quarter is included in the Family Worship Kit Paper folder and in the June 6, 13, 20 Sunday School activities.*

### WATCH the Bible Story and Sing with the Celebrate Wonder Music Videos

Watch this week's Celebrate Wonder Video on Amplify Media:

Amplify Media is a new resource for our congregation! This will make it easy for you and your families to access 100's of videos for adults, youth and children. To receive the log in info and our congregation's access code, email [kschmucker@faithumchurch.org](mailto:kschmucker@faithumchurch.org) or text Kathy at 330-224-6138. Once you have logged into Amplify Media search Celebrate Wonder to watch this week's Celebrate Wonder Video and view the Celebrate Wonder Music Videos! Amplify Media has also recently added a section called, Cokesbury Kids, to make it easier for you to find all the great resources available for children! **This week is Summer Session 11 Esther.**

**WONDER:** How do you think Esther felt when she went to the king and told him she was a jew?

### WONDER Together

- How do you think it would feel to be chosen to be a queen or a king?
- Have you ever had to stand up for someone else?
- Is it hard for leaders to be courageous?

**PRAY together** - Dear God, thank you for helping us to have courage when everyone seems against us. Amen.



### SHARE the Faith Word:

**COURAGE**— Courage is choosing to act in faith, even when you are afraid.

**WONDER:** How did Esther show courage?

### THINKing and Speaking (Discussion)

*Supplies: paper, crayons, markers, colored pencils*

SAY: Sometimes we need to THINK before we say something. THINK is a mnemonic (to assist memory) device that will help you decide whether to say something.

- Share the following about THINK with everyone.

**T** – Am I telling the truth?

**H** – How will this help?

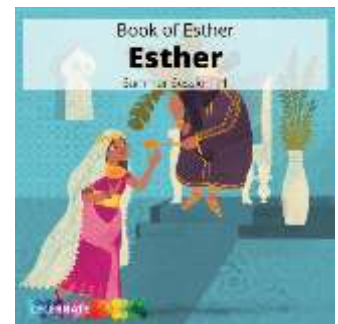
**I** – Does it inspire others?

**N** – Is it necessary to say out loud?

**K** – Does it share God's kindness?

**WONDER:** Is there something you want to speak up about? What would you say?

- Have each person make a poster with a message she or he wants to share with others.



## Spiritual Practice—Exploring Courage Through Discipline

*Supplies: a scepter-like object* • Gather together. Light a candle.

SAY: Scepters represent power.

• Pass around the pretend scepter for everyone to hold.

WONDER: What would you do if you were a queen or a king?

SAY: You can use your power for good.

WONDER: What would God want you to do with your power?

• Each person can hold up the scepter and repeat the following after you:

SAY: I have the courage to speak up!

• Find a time to read together the *Celebrate Wonder Family Activity Book*.

## Spiritual Practice: Courage Chart

Esther was afraid to tell the king she was a Jew. But to save her people, she had to tell him. She did not know what he would do. Continue to color in the Courage Chart (from last week's lesson activities) and share how you have acted

in courage. Think about ways you can speak up for friends and family. Share with one another ways you have seen people show courage. Pray for courage to do what is right and to stand up for others.



## Spiritual Practice: Courage Braid

Rahab was told to place a red cord out of her window so the Israelites would not harm her or her family. Rahab's courage and her discipline in a time of danger made it possible for her and her family to be saved. Braid a bookmark or bracelet from a thin red cord. As you braid, think when you showed courage in a time of danger. Contemplate how fear (one strand), discipline (second strand), and courage (third strand) go together. What else gives you courage?

## Celebration Chart

Print out and place the chart on your refrigerator, kitchen table, or in an easy-to-access place. Throughout the week, have your child mark a space each time he or she completes an item on the chart. When a vertical, horizontal, or diagonal line is completed, celebrate together! A *Celebration Chart for Summer* can be found in the *Family Worship Kit paper folder* or in the *June 6, 13, 20 Sunday School Home Activities*.

Adapted from Celebrate Wonder Summer 2021 Session 10 © 2021 Cokesbury

## Additional Family Activities:

- **Back to School Blessing Sunday is August 22.** Join us in person or online as we pray for everyone who is beginning a new school year. Backpack tags will be available. We will offer a special blessing to students beginning kindergarten.
- **Try this Back to School Blessing Activity and Be a Blessing to Others!** – Send a card of encouragement to teachers, administrators and students you know who will begin a new school year this fall. Let them know you are thinking of them, supporting them and praying for them.
- **Resources for Talking about Race and Racism with Children:** Visit our website at <https://www.myfaithunited.org/anti-racism/>
- **Look for God Sightings,** looking for our good God in the world! Share the God Sightings you find with us. We will share them during our Wednesday Night Live worship.
- Use, individually or as a family, the worship and devotional resources you will receive connected with Sunday's Worship and Sunday School. Share with others! Visit our website for updated resources: <https://www.myfaithunited.org/worship-online/>