the JOURNEY

To become a family on mission with God

BIBLICAL
HISTORICAL ◂
CULTURAL
STRATEGIC

LESSON
6

God's work

The story

God has always been at work. History is His story from beginning to end. He is establishing an enormous family – a dazzling array of households of faith that display His kingdom and glory. As we study history, we can see God moving His people, whether voluntarily or involuntarily. Through both means, He positions His people to play their unique part in His story of gathering families from every nation to Himself. God has given our family a unique role to play in His story.

Esther 4:14 (NKJV)

" … Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?"

Study it

Share the account of Esther with your family, focusing on Esther 4:7–16. How was Esther placed in her position as queen involuntarily? How did this God-given position allow Esther to stand voluntarily on behalf of the Jews? What did Esther risk for her actions?

Experience it

▶ On your timeline draw or write down events that reflect your family's history, going back as far as you like. Highlight moves your family made and events in your children's lives. Discuss the impact of the events you record. Talk about your family's legacy.

▶ Every believer has a unique and valuable part to play in God's story. Make a favorite family snack, leaving out a key ingredient. Describe how the snack tastes. Discuss why each ingredient in a recipe is important and how they all work together. Make the connection that each of us has a unique part to play in God's story, not only as a family, but also as individuals.

Discuss it

1. Look back. Where is God evident in our family history?
2. How does our current piece of the timeline fit into God's bigger story?
3. Look ahead. How will we prepare for the blessing of future generations in our family? (Deuteronomy 7:9)

Map it

Using stickers or tacks, mark on your world map where Esther was when God used her to save the Jews. Mark the place where your family lives and places you have gone. Pray for God to begin to reveal your family's unique role at this time in history and in the place where you are now.