

# HOW TO BE A SUPERHERO

## LESSON SNAPSHOT

**BOTTOM LINE:**

God wants us to serve Him where we are.

**OBJECTIVE:**

Kids will think of ways to serve God in their homes and church.

**KEY PASSAGE:**

Esther 4, Mordecai Asks Esther for Help

**MEMORY VERSE:**

*"Whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God." 1 Corinthians 10:31b (NIV)*

**SUMMARY:**

Batman is from Gotham. Spider-Man is from New York. The Guardians of the Galaxy live in space. God's heroes aren't only serving on the mission field. They serve at home, where God put them.

**SIMPLE PRAYER:**

*Dear God,*

*Teach us to serve You where we live.*

*In Jesus' name,  
Amen*

# HOW TO BE A SUPERHERO

## MEMORY VERSE

*“Whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.” 1 Corinthians 10:31b (NIV)*

*“Do everything else for the glory of God.” 1 Corinthians 10:31b (NirV)*

### **LARGE GROUP:**

As a group, see if the kids can recite the memory verse without seeing it on the screen. Then put the verse on the screen and read it once more together.

### **SMALL GROUP:**

Have the kids sing the memory verse in the style of their favorite pop/rock singer.

# HOW TO BE A SUPERHERO

## SKIT

### SMALL TOWN GIRL

#### ITEMS NEEDED:

Superhero costume for the Supreme Diva; a fake mustache for Dr. Insidious

#### CHARACTER BREAKDOWN: 1M, 1F

#### CHARACTERS:

Dr. Insidious - Bad guy with a degree

The Supreme Diva - Super teen extraordinaire

*Dr. Insidious enters with the letter and fake mustache on.*

DR. I: Special delivery for the Supreme Diva! I have a special delivery for the Supreme Diva from the mayor of New York City! *(to the kids)* Hey, kids, it's me. Dr. Insidious! Bet you thought you'd never see me again, didn't you? I finally figured out a plan to get rid of that pesky Supreme Diva. Soon she will be gone, and the city will be mine!

*The Supreme Diva enters.*

DIVA: Did someone say special delivery?

DR. I: I did! You have a message from the mayor of New York City.

DIVA: New York City?

DR. I: Would you like to hear it?

DIVA: Yes, please!

*Dr. Insidious opens the letter.*

DR. I: Dear Supreme Diva, We think you are great! You have saved your city many times, and you are an amazing hero. But we think your talents are being wasted in that tiny town. Why don't you come to New York City? Stop fighting with those small time super-villains like Dr. Insidious, and come fight real villains like the Green Goblin!

# SKIT

DR {cont}: We would love to have you here as soon as possible, so pack your bags and hit the road. Love, the Mayor of New York. PS: We have great pizza!

DIVA: Oh my! That's certainly flattering.

DR. I: So I guess you'll be leaving our little town then, won't you?

DIVA: Oh I don't think so.

DR. I: What??

DIVA: This is my hometown. This is where I want to fight crime.

DR. I: Are you kidding? This town is a dump! New York is the big city! You could be a huge star! You could have commercial endorsements, and go to movie openings! They might even make a movie about you!

DIVA: First of all, New York doesn't need me. They have Spider-Man. Second of all, I know it's you, Dr. Insidious, and you're not getting rid of me that easily.

*She rips off the fake mustache.*

DIVA: And besides all that, this is where God put me. If He wants me to fight crime in New York, He will make that happen. For right now, I'm going to stay right here and put guys like you into jail! Come on, Doc.

DR. I: You can't blame a super-villain for trying.

DIVA: It was a good plan, Dr. Insidious. It made me smile. In fact I think we'll get some ice cream on the way to jail.

DR. I: Can I have some in a waffle cone with sprinkles?

DIVA: Let's not push it, Doc!

*The Diva escorts Dr. Insidious off stage.*

## OBJECT LESSON OR KIDS SERMON

### ITEMS NEEDED:

Canned goods

How many cans do you think you have in the pantry at home? Do you have a lot of soups? Veggies? What else is in the pantry?

Everyone has canned goods and boxed groceries. That's what makes them so ideal when it comes time to help others. When the local food pantries and homeless shelters ask for donations, they often ask for canned goods. It's a quick, easy, and inexpensive way you can make a difference in your community.

Some people think that the only way to serve God is to travel overseas and go on a mission trip, but there are so many ways we can serve God right here! Collecting food, collecting clothes, donating to ministries that help the homeless and the needy. Even just reaching out and inviting friends to church!

God has placed us all here in this community. He's given us a church as a home base to serve not around the world, but right where we live. Let's open our eyes and look for all the ways we can honor God right here. You'll be amazed how much there is to do.

# HOW TO BE A SUPERHERO

## LARGE GROUP GAME

### 20 QUESTIONS

#### ITEMS NEEDED:

None

#### INSTRUCTIONS:

Prior to your weekly services, pick a person or a place that is known to all the kids who come to your church. It can be a local TV personality or a local restaurant. The important thing is it is local to where you live.

Choose two players for this game. Send one player out of the room. Each player will have a chance to play 20 questions to see if they can guess who the person or place is. (Yes or no questions only.) After the first player finishes, the second enters and takes a turn. The player who gets the answer in the fewest guesses wins.

#### VARIATION:

Have both players sit on stage and take turns asking questions. First one to guess the answer is the winner.

#### WHAT'S THE POINT?

No one can serve our community better than we can because no one knows our community like we do!

# HOW TO BE A SUPERHERO

## LARGE GROUP LESSON

### **BOTTOM LINE:**

God wants us to serve Him where we are.

### **OBJECTIVE:**

Kids will think of ways to serve God in their homes and church.

### **KEY PASSAGE:**

Esther 4, Mordecai Asks Esther for Help

### **INTRO:**

I'm going to read you off some superhero names. When I do, I want you to tell me what city these heroes are from. Sounds like a challenge, I know, but you'll be amazed when we get into this how easy this may be for you.

Where is Spider-Man from? (New York City)

How about Superman? (Metropolis)

What about Batman? (Gotham City)

What about the Avengers? (Base is in New York City)

Every superhero has a hometown. Some are fictional. The DC Comic characters come from made up locations like Metropolis, Gotham, Star City (Arrow) and Coast City (Green Lantern). Most of Marvel's heroes are all from real places, and most of them, including Spidey, the Fantastic Four, and Daredevil, are in New York. But a few heroes come from places beyond our planet. Thor is from Asgard, and the Guardians of the Galaxy pretty much bounce around the whole Marvel Universe.

It may seem like a minor detail, but the places heroes come from have a great impact on who they are. You can't think about Batman without thinking of Gotham City. The dark, shadowy skyline of the city is a reflection of the dark, brooding hero who fights the city's worst criminals. Spider-Man is very much a product of New York. Like the people who live there, Spider-Man is a tough, colorful character with a wise cracking sense of humor. He just wouldn't fit in in Miami or Dallas the way he does in New York.

Today's Bible story is about a young woman who found herself in just the right place to save her people. Esther was a queen, but she didn't choose to become one. The king chose her out of all the women in His kingdom. Then one day Esther's uncle found out there was a plot to murder the Jews, Esther's people.

# LARGE GROUP LESSON

## READ ESTHER 4

### MAIN POINT:

Esther was the queen, but the queen was not as powerful as her husband. The queen could only approach the king if he summoned her. If she went to see the king unannounced, he could welcome her - or he could punish her severely.

Esther knew the rules, and she'd never dare approach the king. It terrified her when Mordecai asked her to do just that. But she knew, as he did, that God had a plan in this. God had put her in the palace so she could save her people. Maybe she would succeed. Maybe she would die. Maybe she was born for such a time as this.

God has a plan for each of us too. He's put us here, in this town, in this church, in your schools and neighborhoods for a reason. And I know God has a plan for all of us right where we are.

### DRIVE IT HOME:

So many Christians mistakenly believe that work for God begins overseas. They think you have to travel to the mission field in a foreign country to serve Jesus. Or they think you have to go to Bible college and enter full time ministry. Nothing could be further from the truth. Any place you find people, there's a need to serve God. This city is full of people, and we are the ones God has chosen to reach them.

Being a hometown hero doesn't require us to do big things either. We can donate money and food and clothing. We can reach out to the new kid in school and make a friend. We can donate our time to do service projects like cleaning parks or doing yard work for those who can't do it themselves. There's no reason to put off being heroes for Jesus because there are hundreds of ways to serve and help others right here in our backyard.

I know some of you love it here, and some of you probably don't. Some of you are probably looking to the future when you can go to college or move off to a big, exciting place far away. God will guide you, if that's where He wants you to go, He will use you there. He will use you all the more, though, when you learn to be a hometown hero!

God has a plan for all of us. That plan doesn't begin at some distant time and place. It's already happening. Be a hometown hero. Serve where you live, and let God show you how to share His goodness with others!

### CLOSE WITH A SIMPLE PRAYER:

*Dear God,  
Teach us to serve You where we live.  
In Jesus' name, Amen*



# HOW TO BE A SUPERHERO

## SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (K-2ND)

### ICEBREAKER:

What is the one place in the whole world you want to visit one day?

### MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:

1 Corinthians 10:31b

Have the kids sing the memory verse in the style of their favorite pop/rock singer.

### SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY:

Pass a ball around the circle. Each time someone hands off the ball, they have to name a place in their city. If a person gets stumped or repeats, they have to sit down.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Read Esther 4

Who was Mordecai?

What did Mordecai tell Esther?

What did Mordecai want Esther to do?

Why do you think God chose Esther to be queen?

What are some things we can do to serve God here in our community?

### SIMPLE PRAYER:

*Dear God,*

*Let us be Your hands and feet in our community.*

*In Jesus' name,*

*Amen*

# HOW TO BE A SUPERHERO

## SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (3-5TH)

### ICEBREAKER:

What is the one place in the whole world you want to visit one day?

### MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:

1 Corinthians 10:31b

Have the kids sing the memory verse in the style of their favorite pop/rock singer.

### SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY:

Pass a ball around the circle. Each time someone hands off the ball, they have to name a state in the USA. If a person gets stumped or repeats, they have to sit down. Can you name all 50 states before everyone is out?

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Read Esther 4

What did Mordecai want Esther to do?

Why was Esther afraid to do it?

Why do you think God chose Esther to be queen?

What are some things we can do to serve God here in our community?

What is one thing you will do this week to help your community?

### SIMPLE PRAYER:

*Dear God,*

*Let us be Your hands and feet in our community.*

*In Jesus' name,*

*Amen*

# HOW TO BE A SUPERHERO

## POWERPOINT REVIEW GAME

### TRUE OR FALSE

1. Serving God requires us to go to Bible college or the mission field.  
FALSE
2. God put Esther in the palace of the king so she could save her people.  
TRUE
3. Esther didn't do anything, even after Mordecai asked her.  
FALSE
4. God wants us to reach out to our community.  
TRUE
5. Even kids can serve their community in God's name.  
TRUE

# MAKE IT STICK

## 5 Simple Ways You Can Make This Lesson Stick With Your Kids

### THIS WEEK'S LESSON: LOCAL HEROES



#### IN THE CAR:

Ask your child what they learned about this week on the drive home: Batman is from Gotham. Spider-Man is from New York. The Guardians of the Galaxy live in space. God's heroes aren't only serving on the mission field. They serve at home, where God put them. Esther 4, Mordecai Asks Esther for Help



#### HANGING OUT:

Make this week's lesson real: Take a drive with the kids, and go to a few of your favorite local spots, the ones that don't exist in other towns. Ask your kids what makes the place where you live special?



#### AT DINNER:

Here are some great discussion starters:

- Why did God allow Esther to become queen?
- What might have happened if Esther didn't speak up for her people?
- How can we be God's hands and feet and help people in our community?



#### AT BEDTIME:

Quiz your child on this week's memory verse:

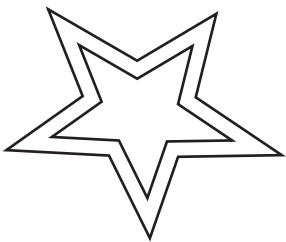
*"Whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God." 1 Corinthians 10:31b (NIV)*



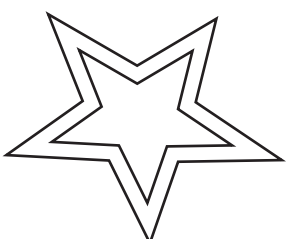
#### PARENT TIME:

What you need to know:

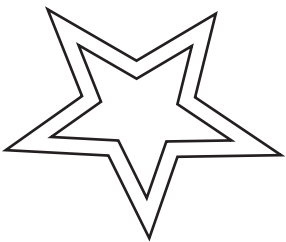
It's important for all Christians to realize that ministry isn't just something far away on a mission field. It happens every day where we live. Pray for eyes to see the needs around you and willing hearts to serve God where you live.



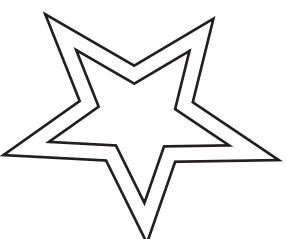
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## CRAFT ACTIVITY

Let the kids decorate some large grocery bags with superhero designs. Send the bags home and encourage them to bring the bags back with donations for a food pantry or coat closet.