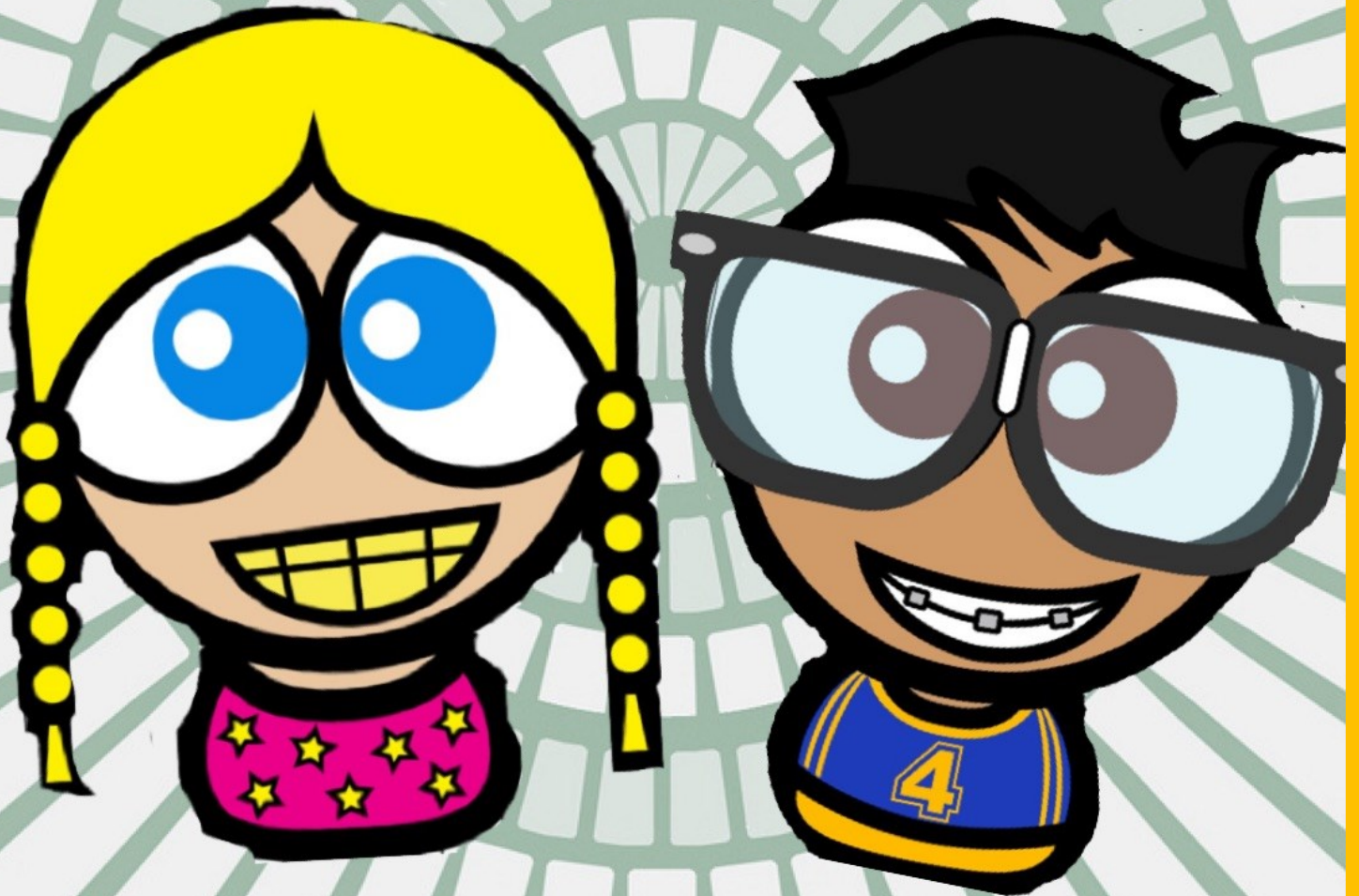


# Heart School



Preparing Our Hearts For the King

**Story, music and lesson plans by Kelly Koshatka  
with help from the Hungering Conference Children's Team workers!**

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# HEART SCHOOL ~ Teacher's Notes

The best way to prepare for any bible club is to SOAK in the SPIRIT of what you will be teaching. Well... that is the very theme of this bible club, SOAKING in the SPIRIT until our hearts are soft, open and ready for Jesus! Even the youngest among us need the ministry of the Holy Spirit softening our hearts to see and love Jesus. May God minister to teacher and child alike, softening and melting all of our hearts until we see the King and minister to His heart.

The lessons involved in Day One are to establish with the children that we are gathering to Jesus (the King) in special way, - we are connecting into His heart and needs. The concept of each child having his or her own dreams will help them understand that God is also a Person who has hopes and dreams. We pray the Holy Spirit will draw each child's heart to consider God as a Person with a heart and desires. We trust for the Spirit to work in each child a new openness to knowing Jesus in this way.

The lessons involved in Day Two are the process of giving ourselves to become what King Jesus needs. The reason Esther and Ellis go to heart school is to meet a need in the King's heart to not be alone. The other children that attend their heart school wanted to become special, beautiful and strong rather than simply caring for the Lord's needs. The motivation of love is the focus here. Instead of going to "Head School" and learning things... the children will be in "Heart School" where the emphasis is on our hearts being more soft, open, and filled with that which will bless the King.

The basic elements of the lessons can be shaped for the very young to an older group. What is important is that the core element of each lesson is emphasized in a manner suited for the particular age group being taught. Puppet skits, flannel board presentations, and other teaching aides can be developed to help illustrate the main story line. This should be easy to incorporate into any lesson plan as each lesson begins with the story version of the lesson, and ends with practical teaching points.

The theme of this bible club is taken from the book of Esther. I have added Ellis into the story as a point of identification for the boys. I think that one of things that can be misleading in the manual is the poem that is woven throughout the curriculum. The poem/story is more for the teachers and the much older student. The reason it remains in the manual is because I believe it bears the seeds of the Cross as laid out in the Book of Esther that keep the core reality of Christ Crucified ever in the center, even if it just released in the faith of the Teacher (we always want the Teachers just as affected as the kids!). The Preschool and Toddler teachers should seek the Lord for simple paraphrases of the poem-story that are easily received for the young heart and are not gender sensitive. Kelly plans to rewrite this simple paraphrase of the poem-story when time permits. The poem-story is also more "female" orientated as it follows the scriptural account and women are a central element in the book of Esther. It is for this reason that Ellis is introduced as the boy student in Heart School. Because the focus of this study is on attending Heart School, girls and boys can identify and glean from the spiritual need to separate ourselves for a season of deeply softening our hearts for Jesus. This should not be a gender sensitive focus but for all children, boys and girls.

# HEART SCHOOL

## Day 1/ Lesson 1, Part 1: The Dream

*It all started with an orphan...*

Far away on a sad lonely day little Esther played with her toys.  
With no mother or father, no sister or brother, her eyes would lift up to the skies.  
As the wind blew through her hair her heart would fly up there...

Up up up to the skies.

To the heart of the heavens... to the heights and beyond them.  
She would dream and believe and tears of longing would fill up her eyes.

Her uncle, he loved her and was a family unto her.

He made her feel safe and at home.

He told her about God, a wonderful loving God with a Heart bigger than the skies.

Uncle would share, that deep in there, in that great big heart of God...

Was a desire and need, deeper than the seas, that God longed for us to share.  
For now it was a secret, it was not time to see it... her uncle told Esther with a smile.

Just grow and believe and in time you will see  
if you keep your faith for just a little while.

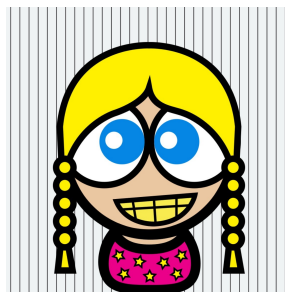
So Esther grew and each day she knew that there was a secret God wanted to share.  
Something in His heart was a huge part of all that was in there.

She waited and believed and grew as she dreamed of knowing God in a true way.  
She was filled with desire, like a small burning fire,  
that caused her heart to have a real living faith.

"Someday I will know Him. Someday I will see Him.

Someday He will share what's in His heart.

I will prepare myself now"... and in her heart she took a vow  
that to Him her heart she would bring.





## Having A Dream

*"She would dream and believe and tears of longing would fill up her eyes".*

Having a dream is something that starts in our deepest heart.

A dream comes from a longing deep within.

We all have dreams.

What are your dreams and desires?



Most of our dreams live deep inside of us and have never been actualized or experienced outwardly.

How would it feel to have a dream and desire in your heart that meant more to you than anything, and it never came true?'

Do you think God could feel this way?

(older kids) Day 1 / Lesson 1, Part 1 continued: The Dream

## GOD HAS A DREAM!

God has a dream that comes from His deepest heart.

God wants us to know what His dream is!

God wants to share His dream with us when it is the right time.

Guess what? We can help make God's dream come true!



## Letting God's Dream Affect My Heart

*"Someday I will know Him. Someday I will see Him.  
Someday He will share what's in His heart.  
I will prepare myself now."*

We want to be ready to hear and know God's dream!

We want to be ready to help make it come true!

What can we do to start preparing ourselves now?

Do you think preparing your heart will help you be ready?

# THE FATHER HAS A DREAM!

The Father has a dream that comes from His deepest heart.

The Father wants us to know what His dream is!

The Father wants to share His dream with us when it is the right time.

Guess what? We can help make The Father's dream come true!



## Letting The Father's Dream Affect My Heart

*"Someday I will know Him. Someday I will see Him.*

*Someday He will share what's in His heart.*

*I will prepare myself now."*

**We want to be ready to hear and know God's dream!**

**We want to be ready to help make it come true!**

**What can we do to start preparing ourselves now?**

**Do you think preparing your heart will help you be ready?**

## *The Secret of God the Father's Heart*

*Teachers please use the following scriptures and concepts to formulate lesson plans that will include the dream of the Father's heart (especially for the boys).*

### *Ephesians 5: 25—32*

*There is a great mystery... a great Secret in the Father's Heart*

*God has a secret....*

*"this is a great secret.. a great dream"*

*That He would die to make His dream come true.*

### *Colossians 1:12-19*

*Its a Kingdom with A Father and A Family*

*A Kingdom with those filled with THE Son of the Father's love,  
His DEAR Son.*

### *Romans 8:28-29*

*God uses the things we go through to help us fulfill the dream of  
the Father's Heart.*

### *Colossians 1:21...*

*We are aliens and foreigners to the Father until His Dear Son brings us  
close by living in our hearts.*

*Jesus, through His Cross, made peace so those who were far away and  
foreigners to the Father could be brought close to the Father in a way  
that pleases His Heart.*



## Having A Dream

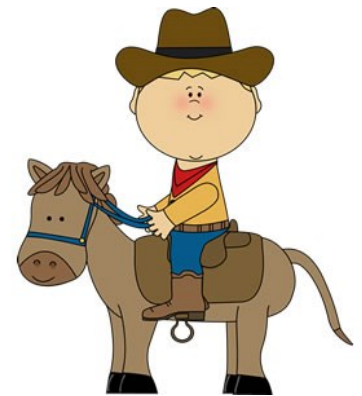
Everyone, even little kids, have dreams and hopes.

Dreams are special ideas and things that you think about.



Dreams are things that you would like to experience and would make you happy.

## Having A Dream



**Our dreams and hopes live inside our hearts.**

**No one would know your dreams unless they found what was in your heart.**

**What are your dreams?**

*(Ask the children to share their dreams. An example might be a little boy wanting to be a super-hero or a little girl wanting to be a princess. These dreams may include such things as doing something, like going to the circus or riding a horse).*



(younger kids) Day 1 / Lesson 1: The Dream

## GOD Has A DREAM!

Even God has hopes and dreams!!

God has a dream, deep in His Heart.

God' dream is something that would make Him very happy!

God wants to share His dream with us!



Who wants to know what God's dream is?

To know God's dream we first must find what is in  
His Heart.

(younger kids) Day One / Lesson 1 Worship Songs

Let's give our love to Jesus and take care of His Heart.

(A)Thank (E) you for (G) sharing your  
(D) Heart with (A) me.

(A)Thank (E) you for (G) sharing your  
(D) dreams and your (A) needs.

(Bm) I love you Jesus.

(G) I love your heart.

(D) Thank you for (A) loving (D) me.





## (older kids) Day 1 / Lesson 1, Part 2: Regular School

So time went on and Esther grew as Uncle kept sharing about God.

Esther felt her heart longing, the fire within burning strongly,  
as she waited to know what uncle knew.

For God was her king and to him her heart she would bring  
when the time was right and true.

She thought about how lonely, God... the One and only,  
felt with His secret trapped in there.

Deep in His heart, from the very start,  
He had a need and longing to share.



Esther knew loneliness... she knew how sad it is, and would cry tears for her God king.  
Oh someday You can share all that is in there! ... cried Esther each day as she grew.

You won't be alone, Your heart will find a home,...  
said the orphan when she would pray and sing.

But I have nothing, but a orphan's heart longing to know the heart secret of my King.

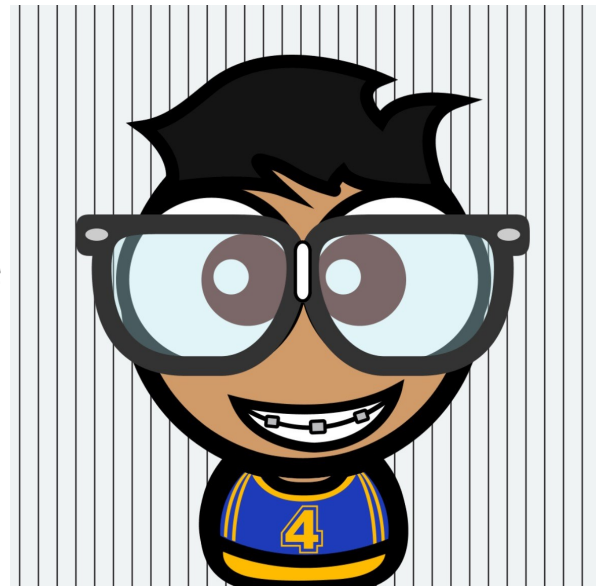
Esther held onto her dream, about knowing the King  
and did what all growing orphans do.

She went to school, she tried to act cool,  
she made friends and did sports and things.

But deep inside, invisible to everyone's eyes, Esther had one true love.

The heart of God, the secret need of His heart, which is what she held above.

In school Esther made friends, and they would  
laugh and play. They were just being kids and  
having fun all day. One day her friend Ellis asked  
Esther a question or two.. he said, "Esther, do you  
have any dreams inside of you"? Esther knew Ellis  
loved Jesus, the true King, and so Esther told  
Ellis everything. She shared about God's lonely  
heart that was longing to be loved. She shared  
about God secret need and her dream to give God  
her love.



## GOD CAN FEEL LONELY



*"She thought about how lonely, God... the One and only, felt with His secret trapped in there".*

Even though Esther was young, she understood loneliness.

Have you ever felt lonely? How does it make you feel?

How do you think God feels when He is lonely?



### We Can Help

*"Esther knew loneliness... she knew how sad it is, and would cry tears for her God king. Oh someday You can share all that is in there! ... cried Esther each day as she grew".*

Esther and Ellis' heart began to care about God's lonely heart.

They began to tell God they wanted to know Him and be with Him.



How can we let God know we care about His heart?

### Going To School and Holding Your Dream

*"But deep inside, invisible to everyone's eyes, Esther had one true love."*

Esther and Ellis went to school and did what all kids do.

Esther and Ellis could have fun and enjoy being a kid while still holding God's dream in her heart.

When we are at school and having fun, deep inside we can also be loving Jesus and holding our heart for Him. We can share our dream with other friends who love Jesus too.

## Day One / Lesson 2: The Story of A Queen (for Older Kids)

"My little chickadee" Uncle said to Esther and Ellis with glee, "The time, it finally has come. The King in His chambers has made a special request and at His word we will come. For something has happened, something terrible yet wonderful to help us reach the heart of our King. Now let me tell you this story about a Queen without glory because her heart was so hard and untrue. Now listen close to this part, it is a key to knowing God's true heart before His secret He will impart.

Uncle told Esther and Ellis about Vashti.

In royal apparel, grand dresses, and such..  
queen Vashti made her great show.  
With her sparkling diamonds and shining crown  
queen Vashti would parade around the town.  
The people would think, "WOW!!! Look at HER!  
Isn't she SPECIAL!  
I guess that's what it means to be a queen!

And all the markets became filled with sparkling  
dresses and shining crowns.  
All the women wanted to have them to look  
just like Vashti...

to be special and beautiful and seen.  
She had power and beauty and filled women's hearts with envy  
because she also was married to the king.

Oh how Vashti strutted her beauty and fame...  
Every province in the land had heard of her name.  
She was the woman who had it all... the woman with the most...  
the woman who was admired from coast to coast.

In the height of her glory, in the midst of her fame,  
a great party was given to show forth her name.  
Her husband, the king, did everything to make the party special,  
to make each heart sing. He poured out the best drinks, and served up the best food.  
He decorated the throne room like a garden in bloom.  
People came from near and far to celebrate the queen and congratulate the king of  
having a wife like her about which to sing.



The choirs were singing, the trumpets were sounding,  
the crowds were excited and you could almost hear the King's heart pounding  
as he called forth his bride to come to his side so all of the world could see!

With all eyes beholding, the great moment was unfolding,  
the queen was called to the king.

Oh come, my bride, come close to my side, I want to show the world my queen!

The woman I love, the woman I need,  
the woman that is something so much more to me than just "queen".  
She has my heart, she holds my name like a living thing in her heart  
that glimmers like a flame.

Oh come dear Vashti, come quickly unto me...  
cried forth the king with delight and with glee.

He called and he waited, as all hearts abated this moment so precious and true.  
But something then happened that should never have happened,...  
something so horrible and blue.

The Queen did not come. The Queen did not hear.  
The Queen was out doing her own thing and was not tender or near.

She was being a big "star" with her own TV show,  
hanging out with the ladies pretending to glow.

She walked in her robes and shining crown,  
she acted like she had it all with the King's heart nowhere to be found.

"How beautiful I am, how special and true..."

But Vashti, can you not hear that the king is calling you?

The King, he waited for Vashti to come.

But come she did not, and all hearts became confused and questioned such an outcome.

Our King is alone. His Queen is away. Is this how the Kingdom works today?

The women all saw it and thought to themselves,

"I don't need my husband I am beautiful all by myself."

The whole earth trembled at what such thoughts could bring...  
a Queen with no heart to love her King?

The men who served the King got to it and thought all the way through it,  
and gave counsel to their dear King.

Vashti must go, for she no longer does show what it really means to be Queen.

It's time to find in this place at this time someone who has a real heart for the King!  
Let's search high and low, and let all provinces know, that young people who love God are sought.  
Let the search begin, let the word go forth, let the trumpets sound to the south and the north.



## Day One / Lesson 2: The Story of A Queen

*(This version is modified for the younger children)*

Uncle told Esther and Ellis a story about the King.

The King had a beautiful queen named Vashti and he loved her very much.

Vashti was beautiful on the outside, but on the inside Vashti was not beautiful because she loved herself more than the King.

The King loved Vashti and wanted everyone to see her, so he had a great big party with balloons and flowers and cake and ice cream and everything special.

The king was so happy for everyone to see Vashti and he was excited about the big party! The King bought Vashti a beautiful dress just for the party, and the King wanted her to wear her new dress, but also wanted her heart to be beautiful too.

So many people came to Vashti's party that Vashti forgot to let her heart be beautiful too. When the King called for Vashti to come and be with him, Vashti did not hear. Vashti forgot to listen with her heart. When the King called Vashti she did not hear because she was too far away. This made the King very sad and even cry. He loved Vashti and wanted her to hear His voice and listen with her heart. He was happy Vashti was beautiful on the outside, but he wanted her heart most of all.

Instead of the big party being a happy day for the King it made him sad instead. He was sooo very sad that the King's friends had to come and help him feel better.

The Kings friends decided that they should have a special time of helping people be more beautiful on the inside by getting their hearts soft for Jesus. Then the King would not be sad anymore!



## (younger kids) Day One / Lesson 2: Vashti and Vernon

Vashti and Vernon were little kids who did not yet know the dream in God's Heart.

They only wanted God to know their dreams.

When they prayed, they would say,

**"GIVE ME TOYS and CANDY".**

**"NEVER LET ME FEEL SAD OR CRY".**

**"GIVE ME, GIVE ME EVERYTHING I WANT OR I  
WON'T LOVE YOU"**



God made Vashti pretty on the outside and Vernon was a cool dude, but God also wanted to make them look good on the **INSIDE!**

They needed to know the secret dream in God's Heart.

They needed to become close enough to God's Heart to find His dream.

## **(younger kids) Day One / Lesson 2 continued: Esther**

Esther and Ellis were kids who did want to know the dream in God's Heart.

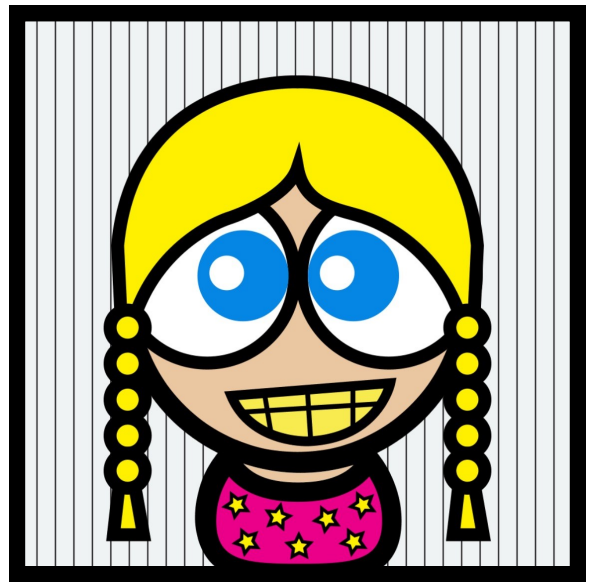
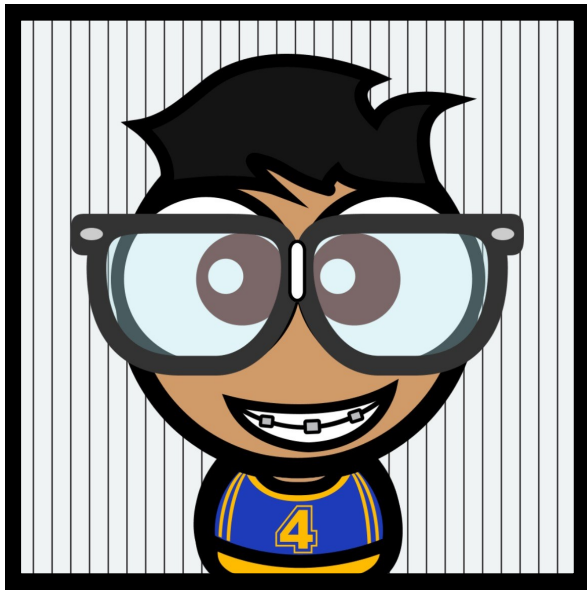
Their greatest dream was to make God's dream come true!

When Esther and Ellis prayed, they would say,

**"DRAW ME CLOSER TO YOUR HEART".**

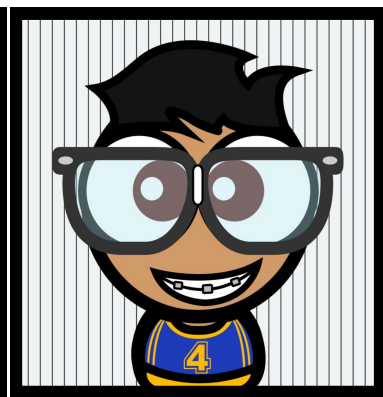
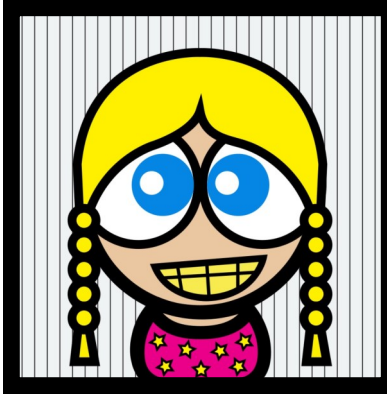
**"GOD, HELP ME TO KNOW YOUR DREAMS AND HOPES".**

**"GOD, I WANT TO MAKE YOUR DREAM COME TRUE AND  
MAKE YOU HAPPY".**



God shared the secret dream of His Heart with Esther and Ellis.

Esther and Ellis were close enough to God's Heart to find His dream.



God made both Vashti and Esther beautiful in their own way. They both liked pretty dresses and special hair-dos and that is ok! Both Vernon and Ellis were cool guys but God wanted to reach their hearts.

In our story God is looking for beauty on the inside.

God is going to help Vashti, Vernon, Esther and Ellis and you and me to be beautiful on the inside by Jesus.

No matter what we look like on the outside, God is looking into our hearts to find Jesus there!





(younger kids) Day One / Lesson 2 coloring page

**GIVE ME!**

or

**GIVE JESUS!**



(older kids and younger kids) Day One / Lesson 2 Worship

Make Me Ready For the King.

(D) Though you gave (C) my two eyes,  
(G) I want eyes that (D) see you Jesus.

(D) Though you gave me (C) my two ears,  
(G) I want ears that (D) hear you.

(Bm) Open my (em) heart to (C) see your (D) Face  
(Bm) Open my (em) heart to (C) hear your (D) voice

(C) Make me ready for the King!



## (older kids and younger kids) Day One / Lesson 2 Activity

Glue paper hearts or draw/color hearts rising up to Jesus!



# Let's Practice Giving our Love to Jesus and blessing His Heart!

Listen to the Kids Prayer "I Love you Jesus"





# My Memory Verse For Today!



**We love him, because he first  
loved us. John 4:19**

**Now its your turn to share your memory verse with the class!**

**Memory verse certificates can become a special take-away!**

## The King Was Lonely and Sad

Why do you think the King was lonely and sad in this story?

What happened that caused such a big stir in the kingdom?

### Vashti

*"She walked in her robes and shining crown, she acted like she had it all with the King's heart nowhere to be found."*

Did Vashti care about the King's heart?

How did Vashti make the King feel?

I ♥ MY  
SELF +  
THAT'S  
ALL THAT  
MATTERS

Do you think Vashti knew the secret dream in the King's heart?

Do you think the men who served the King knew His heart was sad?



### A Heart For The King?

*"Vashti must go, for she no longer does show what it really means to be Queen. It's time to find someone who has a real heart for the King!"*

A big adventure is about to begin for Esther and Ellis but not for Vashti!

Esther and Ellis are going to heart preparation school!

A special call is going out from the king looking for people who care about His heart!

Do you hear the call from the heart of King Jesus calling us today?

Do you want to go to Heart School to help fulfill the King Jesus' heart desire?

**In what ways do I relate to God like Vashti?**



**In what ways do I relate to God Like Esther and Ellis?**

*Do I want to get softer towards the Lord's Heart?*

*Am I willing to go to Heart School and let the Holy Spirit soften my heart?*





## Esther and Ellis' Adventure

Now Esther and Ellis had grown older and were ready to hear the good news this story did bring to her ears.  
Oh Uncle, we hear the Kings Heart calling. The secret we have longed to understand is no small thing. It is time for us to take our journey to draw closer to the King.  
To know His heart and find a new beginning.

Uncle said "Go" dear Esther my child, and Ellis too.  
It is for this purpose I shared the story with you.  
So they packed their bags for Shushan and the palace. To enter the chamber of hearts being prepared to seek the King and truly know Him there.

This place was delightful, our Esther and Ellis did feel. In Shushan they sensed that the King was so near! The Kings servants would help them from day to day get ready for the King in just the right way.

And other people came from all across the land to have their adventures and fulfill their plans. Each one was seeking to win the King's heart,... to reach him and see him and take His part. Yet Esther, the orphan, had no beauty plan to do. She just had a desire to help the King not be blue. She told the King's servants who worked with the people, Oh help me to know Him... the deep needs of His heart. I have no great beauty with which you can start. I just care about Him, and I want you to know, you can do what you need to help my heart grow.

So Esther simply put her life into their hands, and in her great smallness turned her gaze to the King. She made him her all and her everything. Though an orphan and ugly and small I may be, I will set my eyes on the King cause He is my everything.

His beauty, His wonder, His heart full of love.

His needs are why I am here and I place Him above.

Ellis was there, seeking God too. He wanted to help make the King's heart happy and not blue.

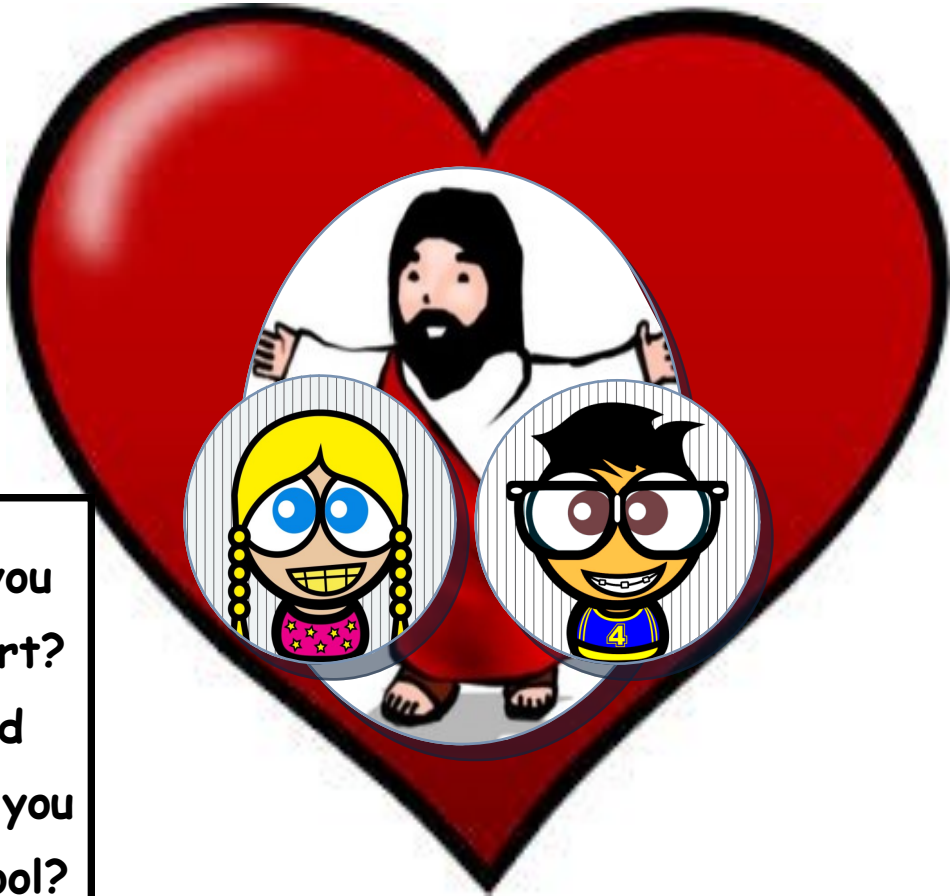
The servants, they liked them, their hearts for their king. Their new special Teacher began to bring them heart treatments constantly. They soaked them and dunked them, softened and melted them. They worked night and day and constantly groomed them. They simply received it and in their hearts believed it as the wonder of the King continued to come. With each heart treatment they continued to receive Him, their hearts growing fuller with love. Oh, the King's face full of glory and grace must be the most wonderful thing in the whole Kingdoms' sum! I can't wait to see Him, to know Him, to free Him from His prison of being alone.

Though orphan I be, when my King's face I see I shall know where I truly come from! Esther trembled with excitement, she dreamed with delight-ment, at the wonder of seeing His Face. Her heart stretched out towards him, cried out and adorned Him with a heart prepared by grace. Ellis felt it too, as his heart for the King grew, to love and protect His dear King.

Esther and Ellis wanted to know God's dream. They did not want God to be sad and have no one to share His dream with.

Esther and Ellis heard God calling them to come closer to His heart.

Esther and Ellis went to heart school to learn about God's Heart from the Special Teacher there.



Do you hear God calling you to come closer to His heart?

Do you want to come and hear God's dream? Would you like to come to heart school?



Vashti and Vernon did not hear Jesus' heart calling them closer to share His dream with them.

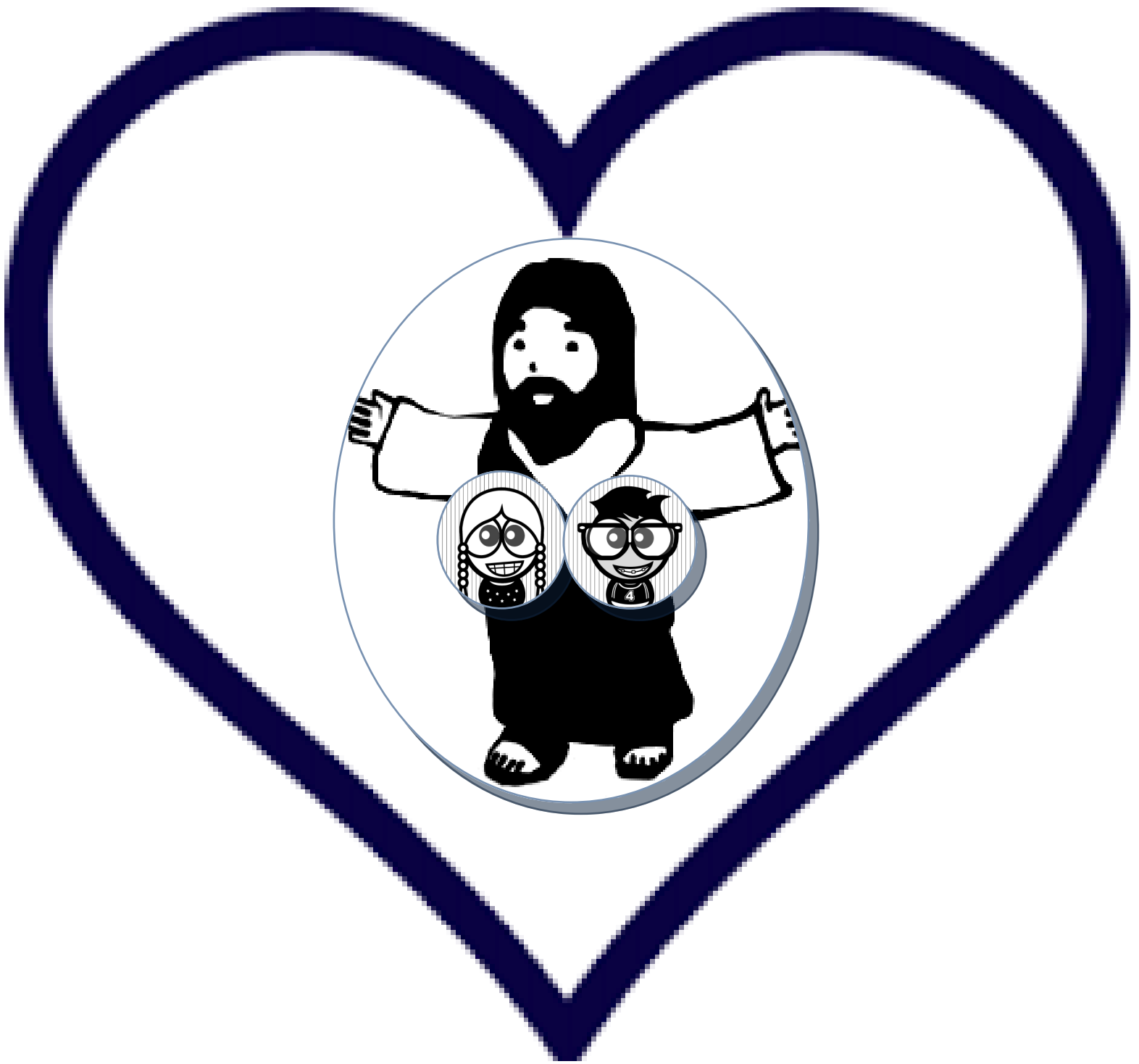


Prayer: Jesus, I am sorry when I and live far away from your heart, I want to get close to Your hear your voice and let my heart grow softer.



(younger kids) Day One / Lesson 3

coloring page



Let's Draw Closer To Jesus' Heart!

**(younger kids) Day One / Lesson 2 Worship Songs**

**Closer To Your Heart**

**(C) Closer to your (G) Heart is (Dm) where I want to (am) be**

**(C) I just want to (G) be with (C) You. (2X)**

**And I will (F) run run (C) run just to (G) know my (C) Jesus**

**I will (F) run run (C) run just to (G) see my (C) King**



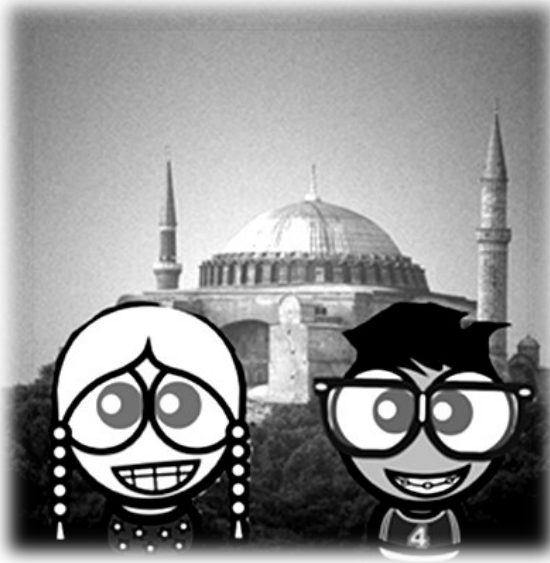
**(younger kids) Day One / Lesson 3**  
**activity ~ "I want to Go to Heart School"**

**Have the child draw themselves into the picture if they  
want to go to heart school**



# (older kids) Day 2 / Lesson 1 Heart School

*"A School for your heart and not your head!"  
(review Day One)*



Esther and Ellis went to heart school in Shushan to follow their dream of seeing the King's face and reaching His heart. Both Esther and Ellis knew the story about Vashti, and how she broke the King's heart. Vashti knew a lot and looked good and had power, but she did not love the King. The King's men who saw the King's face became very upset about how Vashti treated the King and went out looking for people who would love the King and really know His heart. They sent out an invitation for young people to travel to Shushan and come to their "Heart School" for one year. During this time the Kings

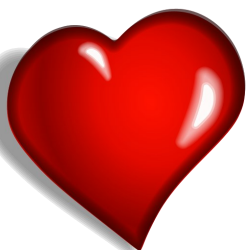
servants and His very special Teacher would prepare these young people's hearts to really love the King in a way that would make the King feel honored, loved and not lonely.

Esther and Ellis left everything to follow their dream and care for their King. Esther and Ellis enrolled in the one year "Heart School" and moved into the dorms that were in Shushan and the King's Palace.

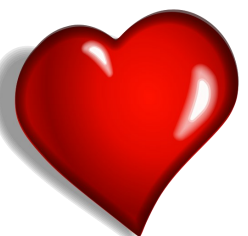
**Would you like to go to "Heart School" with Esther and Ellis?**

**Would you like to experience some of their "heart classes"?**

**Do you want to make your heart ready for King Jesus?**



**Let's Go To Heart School!**



## Esther and Ellis Are Ready to Go!

*"It is time for me to take my journey  
to draw closer to the King.*

*To know His heart and find a new beginning".*



Ever since Esther and Ellis were young they dreamed  
about knowing the heart of the King.

Now that time had come for them to follow that dream.

How do you think they felt?

How do you feel before you go on a big adventure that you have waited  
a long time for?





## (older kids) Day 2 / Lesson 1: Esther and Ellis' Adventure

### Why Did They Go?

*"Yet Esther and Ellis had no plan to do,  
they just had a desire to help the King not be blue".*

Some of the other people who came on the adventure to heart school  
only wanted to look good and be special.

Esther and Ellis went on their adventure to help the King's heart not feel lonely.

**Why would you go on this adventure?**



### Heart Preparation School

*"The servants and the Special Teacher, they liked them, their heart for the king.  
They began to bring them heart treatments constantly".*

How would you like to go to a school that is all about your heart instead of  
your head? That is the kind of school Esther and Ellis went to!

Esther and Ellis were not going to learn things in their new school, they were  
going to let things soften their hearts so they could see the King's face.

## (older kids) Day 2 / Lesson 1

### HEART SCHOOL RULES!



It's not what we see but who we be~



It's not what we know but Who we love~



It's not how we feel but how He feels~



Crying out to Jesus is allowed!



Ask Holy Spirit to share Jesus in your Heart and  
be your special Teacher!



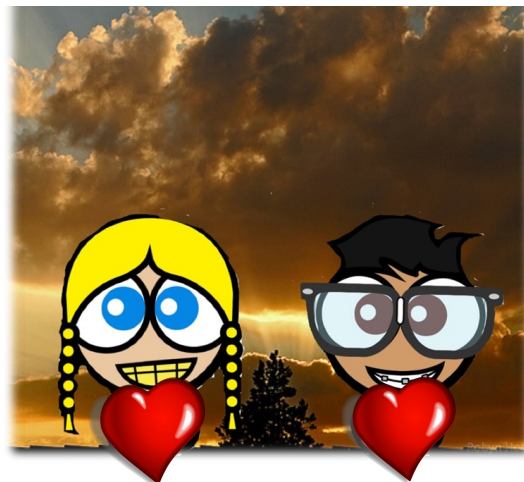
Praying and singing to Jesus is allowed!



Seeking Jesus' face with all your heart is allowed!



THE BIGGEST RULE IN HEART SCHOOL~  
*FORGET ABOUT YOURSELF and SEEK JESUS*  
*WITH ALL YOUR HEART!!!*



# WHERE TO SIT IN HEART SCHOOL

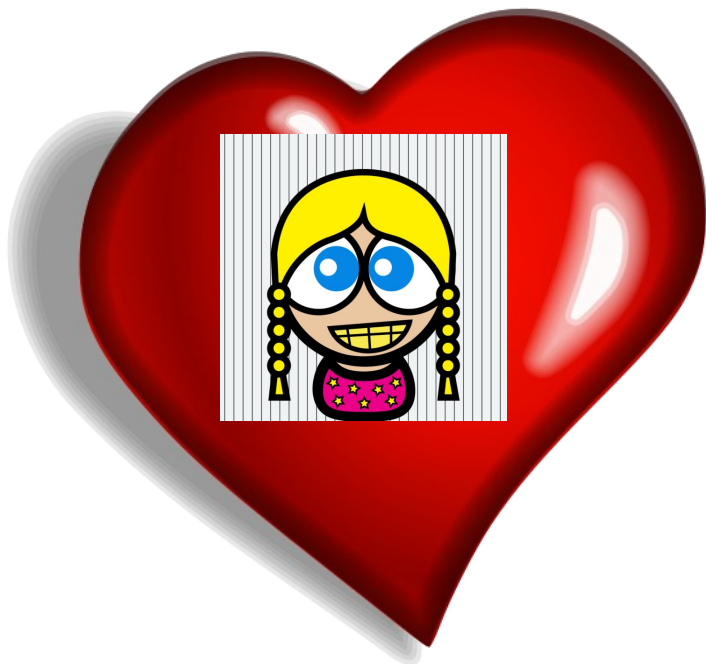
When John the Disciple went to heart school and Jesus was the teacher, he did not sit in a desk, he rested on the heart of Jesus!

How do you think John looked to the other disciples?  
Pretty silly!

But how do think Jesus' words sounded when John heard them coming straight out from the heart of Jesus rather than reading his words from a book?

The Bible tells us that we are no longer students sitting far away from Jesus studying to know Him from a distance. (Ephesians 2:13)

Because of the Cross, we are now IN JESUS and can know Him in a whole new way... a HEART way.



When we learn from being IN the heart of Jesus... we learn from being IN The WORD HIMSELF!!!  
(John 1:1)

In that way we can SOAK our hearts in Jesus rather than fill our minds with information.

## Heart Knowing!

Jesus does not just want us to know  
things about Him,  
He wants us to know His Heart.

Can you hear my heart beat from  
across the room in your desk?

Can you write a paper about my heart-  
beat and explain it properly?

No! Jesus wants us to know Him in a way that is better than  
information. We wants us close, that is why God put us IN CHRIST  
when we were Born Again.

When God put us in Christ He took us out  
of the desk and put us into His heart!!!

If you are going to be a great student in  
Heart School, you must put down your  
pen, get out of your desk and sit right  
down in the heart of Jesus and start  
knowing Him from there!

Let's take some time to get in ready  
for Heart School by taking our place  
in His Heart!



**(older kids) Day 2 / Lesson 1 and possibly part of 2  
(continued)**

**Heart School Has A Very Special Teacher!**

Before you can start class in Heart School you have to meet your new Teacher!

**Would you like to meet Him?**

**He is the Holy Spirit.**

**At Shushan Heart School we call Him Hegai.**

**The Holy Spirit will share Jesus with you in a heart way, and not a head way. The Holy Spirit will not just share words and information, but SPIRIT and LIFE. He will make the Word of God soak into you until your Heart is ready for King Jesus to be enthroned within!**

**John 6:63, John 16:13**

- . Teachers lead a discussion on what this means.**
- .**
- . Take the time to pray with anyone who so desires to be filled with the Holy Spirit or stirred in the Holy Spirit.**
- .**
- . Explain how this will help them really know the Kings Heart, see His Face, and have His nature from their time in Heart School.**

**The First ACTIVITY in Heart School is to met your  
Teacher -  
THE HOLY SPIRIT!!!**



## **(older kids) Day 2 / Lesson 1 and possibly part of 2 (continued)**

**It is important to understand the IMPORTANT ROLE that the Holy Spirit plays in Heart School! Without Him, we will not be ready to see the King!**

Let's Look at some scriptures that share about the importance and ministry of the Holy Spirit in our desire to know Jesus:

<sup>1 John 5:7</sup> For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one.

<sup>John 14:25</sup> But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.

<sup>John 7:38,39</sup> He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)

<sup>Romans 5:5</sup> Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

**CAN YOU FIND ANOTHER SCRIPTURE ABOUT THE HOLY SPIRIT?**

**Give Us Dove's Eyes,  
Welcome Holy Spirit,  
I Love You Holy Spirit  
(worship songs for older kids)**



# Let's Go To Heart School

(younger kids) Day 2 lesson 1 "loving the Word"

## LOVING THE WORD





**The Bible is for everyone...  
young or old, we all want to know Jesus!**







Spending time with the  
Word of God is more  
than reading...

It is loving Jesus and  
drawing closer to His  
Heart.

Song: "The Love of Jesus  
Sweet and Wonderful"

We don't just want to  
hear stories but hug the  
Word of God until it gets  
in our hearts.

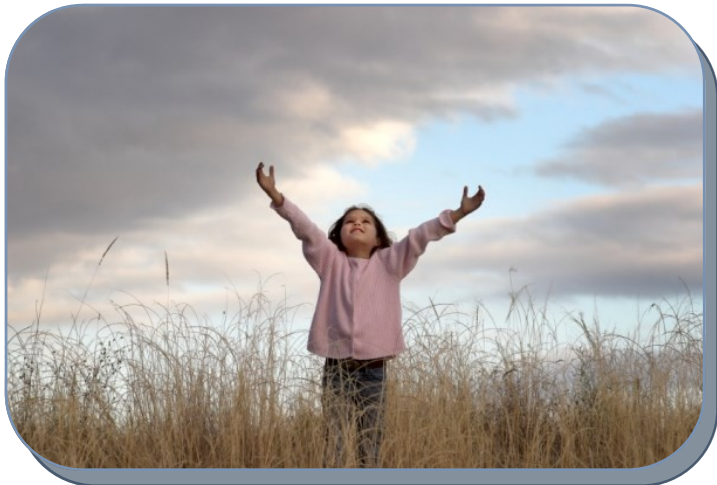
*Heart man puppet comes  
out and hugs his bible.  
Form a circle and pass  
around the bible for  
everyone to hug!*





The Bible is for everyone...  
young or old, we all want to  
know Jesus.

To really be able to get  
what is in the Bible into our  
hearts, we need the help of  
the **HOLY SPIRIT!**



## **Heart Teacher (Holy Spirit Song for Kids)**

**D C G D C G**

**Heart Teacher You reach my heart**

**A D**

**Your name is the Holy Spirit**

**A D**

**You are my friend**

**A D C G D**

**And its because of You that I will see the King.**

**C G D**

**I will see the King**

**Who would like to ask the Holy Spirit  
to fill them and help them hug the  
Word of God and know Jesus?**

**Let's Pray!**



Day 2 / lesson 1 craft - coloring page



I Love The Word of God

## Day 2 / lesson 1 craft - My Bible

Have children make their own "Bible" by folding a piece of construction paper in half and adding a folded sheet of white paper inside. Have them write "Bible" on the outside.

Then have them put heart stickers on the inside of the blank white pages. School age children can draw Jesus on the inside with the little children and add hearts.





# Day 2 lesson 1 Songs:

Read your Bible, pray every day  
Pray every day. Pray every day.  
Read your Bible, pray every day  
And you'll grow, grow, grow!

And you'll grow, grow, grow!  
And you'll grow, grow, grow!  
Read your Bible, pray every day  
And you'll grow, grow, grow!



# My Memory Verse For Today!



**I am holding God's word in my  
heart. Psalm 119:11**

**Now its your turn to share your memory verse with the class!**

**Memory verse certificates can become a special take-away!**

(older kids) Day 2 / Lesson 2 ~ softening our hearts

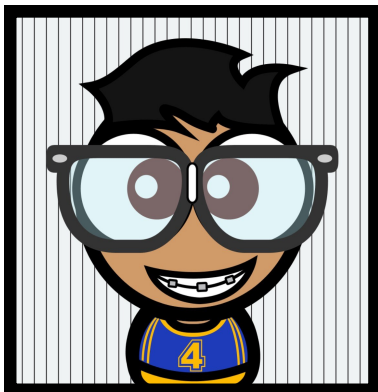
## SOAK in the Word

At Heart School in Shushan it was all about soaking in the Heart of Jesus, and allowing the Word of God to be applied to us a way that reaches our hearts.



Let the Word of God be like a big bottle of perfume to soak in till we smell different!

Soak in the perfume  
of Jesus and carry  
is fragrance to  
others!



Let the Word of God be like  
softening oils to soak in till  
your heart is soft!

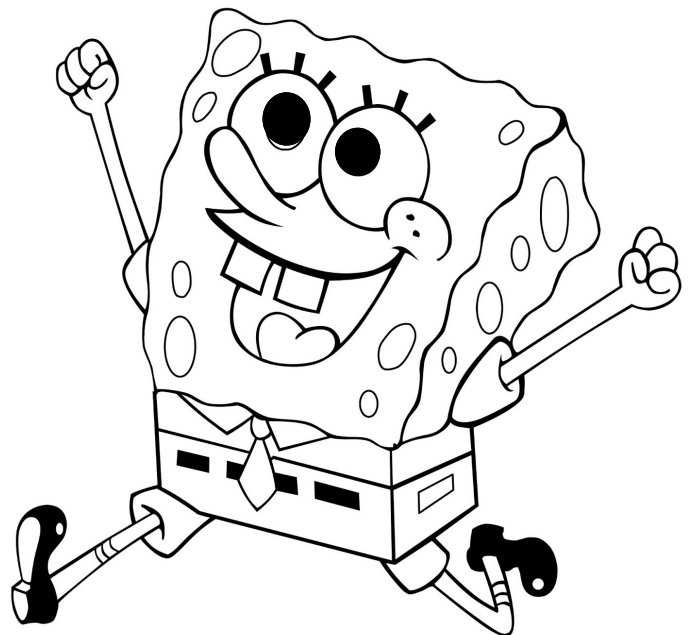


Let the Word of  
God be like soften-  
ing oils poured deep  
into your heart.

Let the Holy Spirit  
do His Work!

Let the SPIRIT of  
Jesus get into your  
pores.

Be like a sponge full  
of His Life.



(older kids) Day 2 / Lesson 2 ~ softening our hearts

# The Word of God is like Living Waters to DIVE INTO!



**This point is REALLY IMPORTANT!!!**

If you just stick your toe in the water of the Word you will never be ready to see the King. In Heart School you have to DIVE IN and get immersed in the Word. God said in His Word that if we don't hold back from Him, then He won't hold back from us!



# Heart School

(younger kids) Day 2 lesson 2 "Softening our Hearts"

## SOAKING IN THE WORD



**The Word of God is like an ocean of water we can swim in!**

**The Word of God is like tub we can bathe in!**

**The Word of God is like a swimming pool on a hot summer day.**

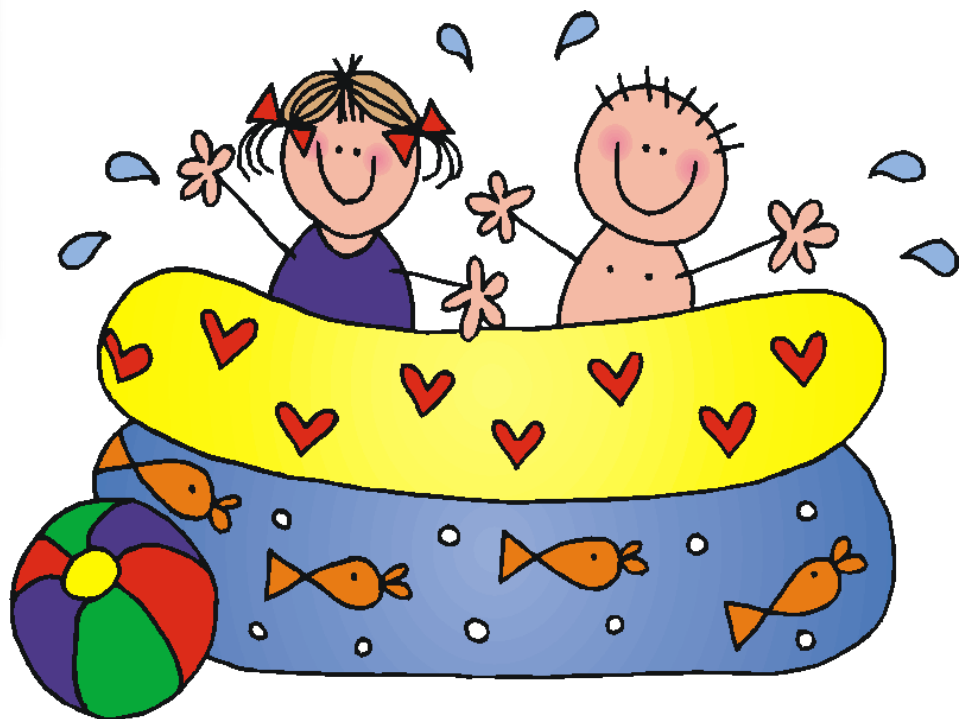
**We can jump in and get refreshed, splash and be happy as we experience  
the love and Jesus in a real way!**



The Word of God makes  
my heart see God and  
feel joyful!



The Word of God  
makes us giggle  
about God's good-  
ness!



(younger kids) Day One / Lesson 2 Worship Songs

Softer and Closer

(G) Softer and (C) Closer, (D) Jesus to (G) you.  
(2X)

(F) I love Your Heart.

(C) I hear Your Voice.

(A) Jesus I love you the (D) most.



# My Memory Verse For Today!



**Jesus washes us with His  
Word. Ephesians 5:26**

**Now its your turn to share your memory verse with the class!**

**Memory verse certificates can become a special take-away!**

(younger kids) Day 2 lesson 2 "Softening our Hearts"

### Craft - Expanding Hearts in Water

Have a clear tub or bowl filled with water.

Put an expandable water toy in the bowl.

Tell the children that the toy represents their heart.

Once the toy is put in the water it begins to grow.

This is the way our hearts are when we soak in the word of God.

*When we dive into the Bible,  
our hearts grow and become soft.*

### Craft - Hearts Filled with Living Water

Next use a sponge.

Cut a red sponge into the shape of a heart.

Soak the sponge in the water.

Take the sponge out and squeeze it, showing all the water that is now in the sponge.

*When we soak in the Word of God our hearts  
become filled with living water (Jesus).*





## GETTING READY TO SEE THE KING

In Heart School the Holy Spirit is  
doing a great job on getting our  
hearts ready to see the King!

In all of our preparations we are getting ready to see the King  
face to face.

### BUT THERE IS A SECRET INGREDIENT!

Esther knew the special ingredient. She had this ingredient  
when she told all the teachers and helpers in heart school -

"Don't make me special or better.

Don't make me smarter or holier.

Don't make me more, **MAKE ME LESS!** (John 3:30)

I love the King more than me and I want Him to be my everything.  
Give me HIS beauty, give me HIS heart, give me HIS love  
and that will be my part".

Most of the other kids in Heart School all wanted to be cool  
and special and better than the rest. They only wanted to be  
close to the King to make them look good (who does that sound  
like? ~ *Vashti and Vernon!*)

The King got rid of Vashti and Vernon to find people who had  
the kind of heart Esther and Ellis had.

(older kids) Day 2 - Lesson 3

The SECRET INGREDIENT!

"Don't make me special or better.

Don't make me smarter or holier.

Don't make me more, **MAKE ME LESS!**

I love the King more than me and I want Him to be my everything.

Give me HIS beauty, give me HIS heart,  
give me HIS love and that will be my part".

Do you want Jesus to be your everything?



Or is it all about you looking better  
and being special?

**G**

**Open the eyes of my heart, lord**

**D**

**Open the eyes of my heart**

**C**

**G**

**I want to see You, I want to see You.**

**(repeat whole thing once)**

**D**

**Em**

**To see You high and lifted up**

**C**

**D**

**Shining in the light of your glory**

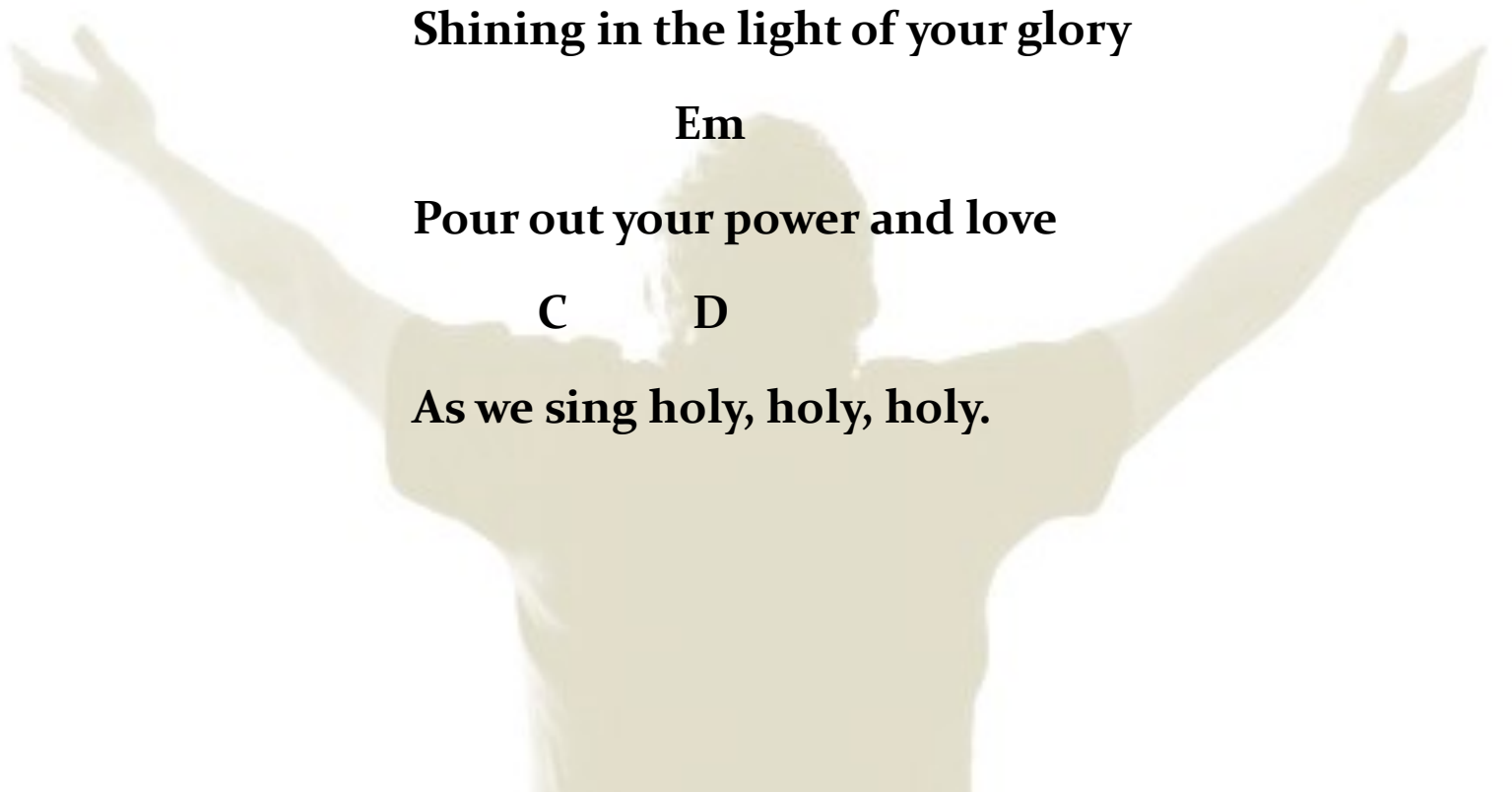
**Em**

**Pour out your power and love**

**C**

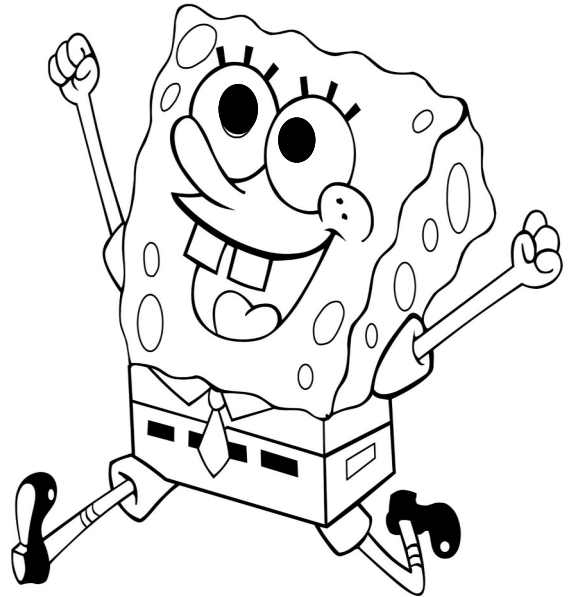
**D**

**As we sing holy, holy, holy.**



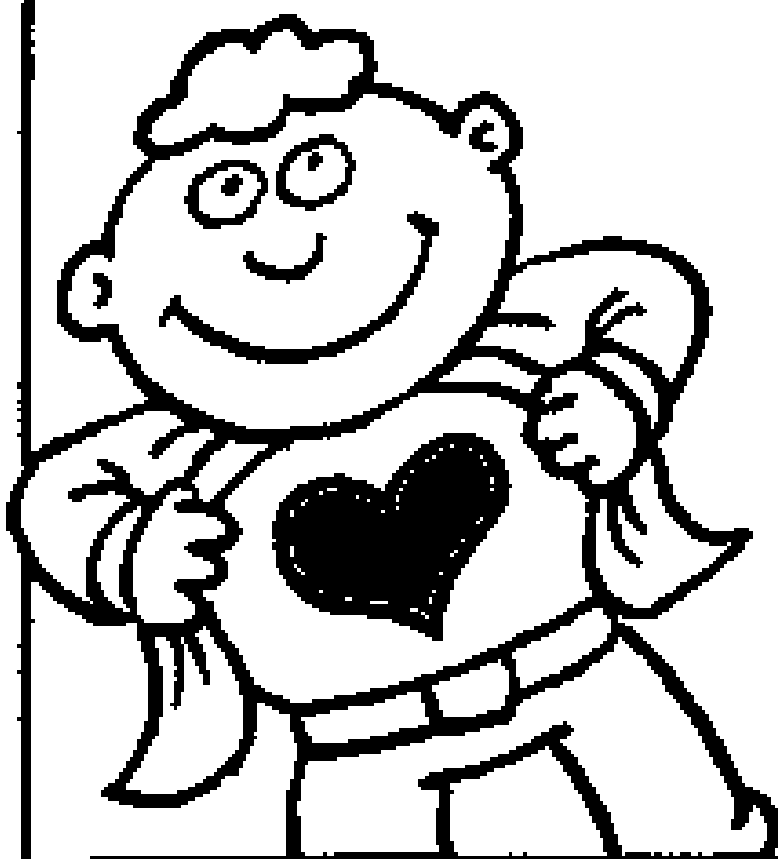
(older kids) Day 2 - lesson 3

Now review all your "Heart Softeners"  
and make sure the secret ingredient is added!



## OPEN HEARTS!

Our hearts  
are wide  
open to  
God



Our hearts have been soaking in the Word and now  
they are soft and open to Jesus in new ways!



## OPEN HEARTS!

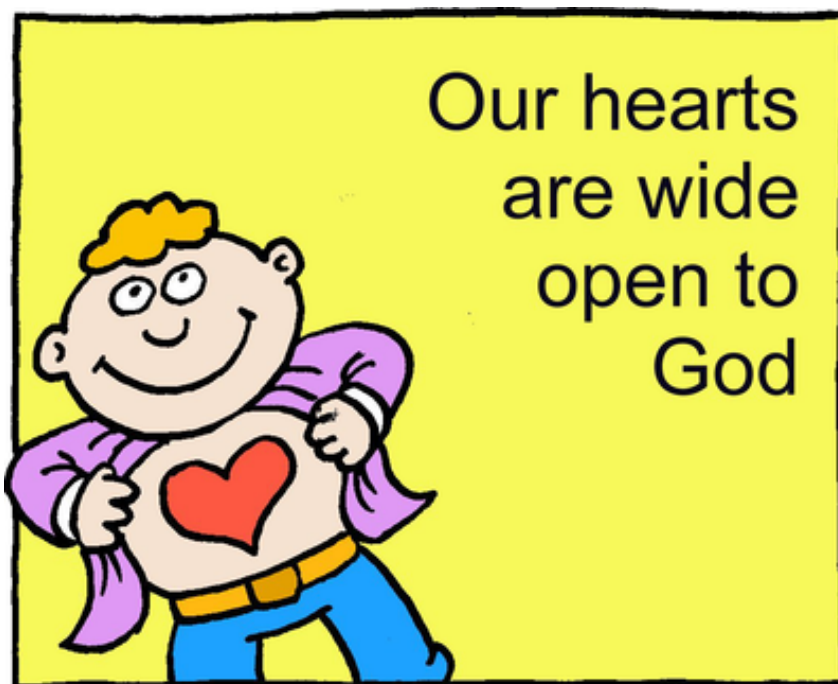


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Have the Kids cut out large hearts and then string yarn through the top so that they can wear it like a necklace.

Print "our hearts are wide open to God" on it.

Encourage the kids to decorate their special heart for Jesus. Add little arms with hands that can be attached on the sides of the heart that open up!!



**We are experiencing the love of Jesus  
more than ever before because our hearts  
are soft!**



## (younger kids) Day 2 / Lesson 3 — Object Lesson

**Object Lesson:** Have a paper bag full of soft objects (cotton ball, feathers, felt, cotton fabric, etc) as well as really hard objects (lego, block, button etc). Have each child reach in and feel for an object and pull it out. Discuss if it was hard or soft and what they want their hearts to feel like to Jesus. Pray over the hard areas of their hearts and ask the Holy Spirit to help to soften them even deeper!



**We are experiencing the love of Jesus  
more than ever before because our hearts are soft!**

## (older kids) Day 3 ~ Final Lesson

### Seeing the King

Esther and Ellis' adventure in Heart School was so incredible.

Both Esther and Ellis:

- Went to Heart School to help the Heart of the King not be lonely.
  - They yielded their hearts to the Holy Spirit so He could make them soft.
- Added the Secret Ingredient to all their softening preparations.
  - Did not hold back but DIVED IN to the Word of God.

During their time in Heart School something wonderful happened, everyday their hearts grew softer and turned more and more towards the King instead of on themselves.

By the end of their 12 months, both Esther and Ellis were ready to see the KING!!!

And they did.. they saw the KING, and the result of that was that afterwards everybody else could see



## (older kids) Day 3 ~ Final Lesson

# Seeing the King

Have a group discussion and review.  
Let individuals share what God is doing in their hearts.  
Pray for one another.





## (younger kids) Day 3 ~ Final Lesson

Have a discussion time with the puppets and kids.

**\*Did Esther and Ellis have a soft heart?**

**\*What was their relationship with the King?**

**\*Who helped/brought Esther and Ellis to that place of true softness at Heart School?**

**\*Can we make ourselves soft? NO!**

**\*How can we keep preparing our hearts for King Jesus like Esther did when we go back home?**



# *What Happened To Esther After She Graduated from Heart School:*

## **Esther Sees the King**

Then finally the day came, as one after one to the King they would come and then return to their personal space. The Kings heart was yearning and constantly burning to find the right one as his Queen. But the secret of his yearning that caused the constant burning was truly the greatest thing. It wasn't her beauty or fancy clothes, her wisdom and eloquence for which he chose. It wasn't her ability to lead meetings and talk, it wasn't the fancy way in which she could strut and walk. He wasn't looking at her hair or her eyes or her nose, none of these things were what he chose. He didn't notice the shoes on her feet, the rings on her fingers, if she dressed messy or neat. He looked past the outward and went straight for the heart.

He was looking for love in His counterpart. He wanted someone who wanted Him.

He wanted a BRIDE that was part of Him.

Well, Esther had nothing in and of herself. She had put all her beauty away on the shelf. She had more important things to seek then improving herself to become a fancy queen. She had sought the Kings heart, His deep and hidden need to have a wife in whom he was pleased. She came before Him with her heart full of love and bowed before this man that she loved. The King gently lifted her gaze to His face, and then she beheld His eyes full of grace. Oh how she loved Him, and He loved her too.

Their hearts became stuck together like glue!



# Esther Loves the King

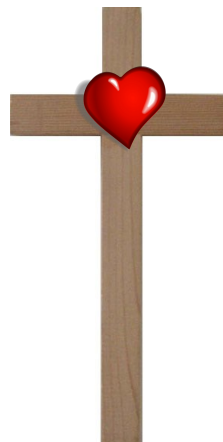
Dear Esther became the queen instead of Vashti. She held her heart open, simple and true, to love the King always when she said "I do". She remembered the lessons that Vashti had taught her, like warnings to always guide and warn her.

I am not special  
There is no beauty in me  
He is my all, my everything.

She listened for His heart and came to His call, she loved Him and knew Him and made Him her all.

The days went by and Esther grew, she wanted to always, His Heart, be true. Deep inside her heart, Esther knew, this Kingdom included more than just "me and you". There were thousands of millions who worshipped the king, each one precious and worth everything. And Esther herself was born a Jew, her uncle Mordecai was a Jew too. In fact there were many Jews in the land that the King governed and was at His command.

And like a tiny sparkle, deep in Esther's heart, a new thought arose like a flower's fresh start. This Kingdom and glory is not about me, it is for the many that my King oversees. The love and the beauty, the power and fame, is to bless others and not give me a "name". They are what is important, they are who I serve, they are my family, I am a Jew, I will not swerve. And Esther's heart opened like petals of love, embracing the thought of others being more important and loved. She realized the reason she saw the King's face, and felt His love and knew His embrace. I am meant to know Him, to grow in and to show Him. I have been loved to give love. And instead of getting bigger, and stronger and better, she set forth to know the Kings love.



# Esther Chooses Love

And then one day, just like any other day, Uncle came to see Esther. The look on his face was full of sorrow and disgrace and caused Esther to wonder and quake.

What is it dear uncle, my precious guide? What has caused your heart to grow so heavy? And uncle replied, "You are the King's bride, and to your people also be true.

The Jews they are suffering, they are attacked and in fear. An enemy has come against them and is already here! Dear Esther, please help your people the Jews, they belong to God and they are part of you too. Esther remembered her petals of love, as deep in her heart she still felt that sparkle from above. She knew that being Queen was all about God's love and caring for others more than the Vashti stuff. Esther fell

on her face and cried out with her voice... Dear uncle I must make a very difficult choice!" To see the King when He has not called me could cost me my life, that is just how the rules be." But I must ask the King to stop this attack, to save the lives of my people and bring them back!

Esther was worried, was afraid and concerned. She did not want to get in trouble or lose her life in this turn. She wanted to stay in the palace all day, to be queen and be comfortable and love the King in that way. But this choice would cost her, it could be her end. After all this time it had come to this moment, this very important and difficult moment.

She cried and prayed and wrestled in her heart.

And as she prayed and thought about it, it occurred to her, Maybe this is the reason why God let me know the King and feel His love, to look into His face and find wings to fly above. It is for this very moment that all these things happened, and now I can choose to love when it really needs to happen. It is for this moment that I have come to the throne and the kingdom, to be able to help others even if I lose it all for them.

Esther made her choice, she was prepared to die. She went to the King to share her heart's cry. The King said "Come" and he listened to her. The King wanted to help and save the Jews. He sent forth His word and made a decree, and the Jews were safe from the enemy.

Esther rejoiced, she started to dance and sing. Her Uncle also became a helper to the king. They all learned that love is the way to go, for love is how the Kingdom flows and grows. And Esther learned what it means to be queen, to love the King first and everyone else even if it costs you everything.

## THE END!

