Exile

“Esther Pt. 1”

Series Objective:

 Students will learn:

* The call of the Prophet Jeremiah
* The story of Esther
* The life and message of Jeremiah

Series Theme Verse: “And who knows but that you have come to royal position for such a time

as this?” – Esther 4:14

Lesson Objective: For students to understand that God us wherever we are to accomplish God’s

 purposes.

Lesson Passage: Esther 1-4

Materials Needed: Bibles, Playdough for each student, Series Theme Verse on poster

Lesson Plan:

 Talking Points: Esther 1-4

* The first half of Esther has a lot of moving parts and characters during this part, you will probably need to go from group to group helping them with their part of the story.
* Introduce the main characters to the students, probably writing them on a board or butcher paper with a description of the individual, such as:
	+ Mordecai – Esther’s Uncle and a Jew
	+ Queen Vashti – First wife of King Xerxes
	+ King Xerxes – King of Persia
	+ Esther – Jewish Niece of Mordecai
	+ Haman – Royal Official hated Mordecai
* Hang these up for students to see.
* Then break students up into four groups, making sure each group has a Bible and Playdough for each student.
* Give each group one of the first four chapters of Esther and have them read the chapter and write down some main points of what is happening in their part of the story.
* Then have them use their Playdough to create their part of the story visually. For example, for Chapter 1, they could make King Xerxes and some banquet food.
* Have them practice telling their part of the story in their group while each group finishes.
* After everyone has finished and practiced, have them come back together with their notes and Playdough.

 The Story Retold:

* Now have the groups tell the story of Esther, or at least the first half in order: Esther 1, Esther 2, Esther 3, Esther 4
* After each group finishes, fill in any gaps that might have been left out.
* After each group has gone, encourage and celebrate that they have just read the Bible and told the story of God for themselves! This is something they can continue to do at home!

The Story and Me:

* Have the Series theme verse written on a poster or white board.
* Have the students read the verse together.
* Point out to students that the Series Theme Verse comes from today’s story.
* Have the group come up with motions for each word in the verse.
* Say the verse as a group, using the motions.
* Tell students that next week we will see how the story of Esther concludes and if she is able to save the Jews.