

MATTHEW'S BIBLE STORIES



Esther is Brave

Written by Rachel Burkum

Illustrated by Matt Keller

MATTHEW'S BIBLE STORIES





Matthew's Bible Stories / Esther is Brave

©2011 by Deaf Missions

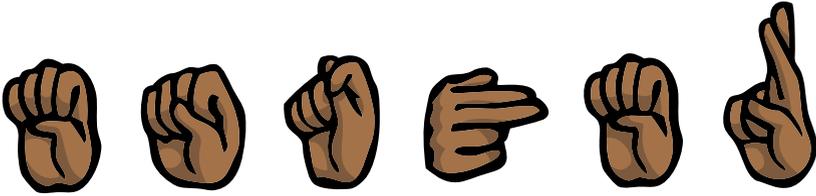
All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means - electronic, mechanical, photocopy, recording, or any other - except for brief quotations in printed reviews, without the prior permission of the publisher. For information regarding permissions, write to Deaf Missions, 21199 Greenview Road, Council Bluffs, IA 51503.

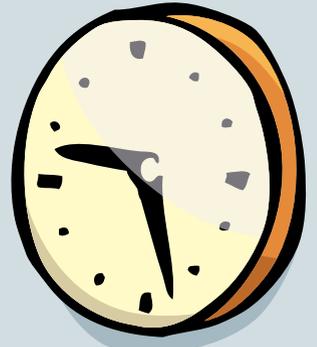
Written by: Rachel Burkum

Illustrated by: Matt Keller

Layout by: Alicia Kraft/Rachel Burkum

Printed in the USA





Matthew tried to be patient.
He was waiting for Sunday school to start.

Matthew's teacher smiled at him.
She signed, "I am excited you are here!"





Matthew smiled.
He was excited, too.

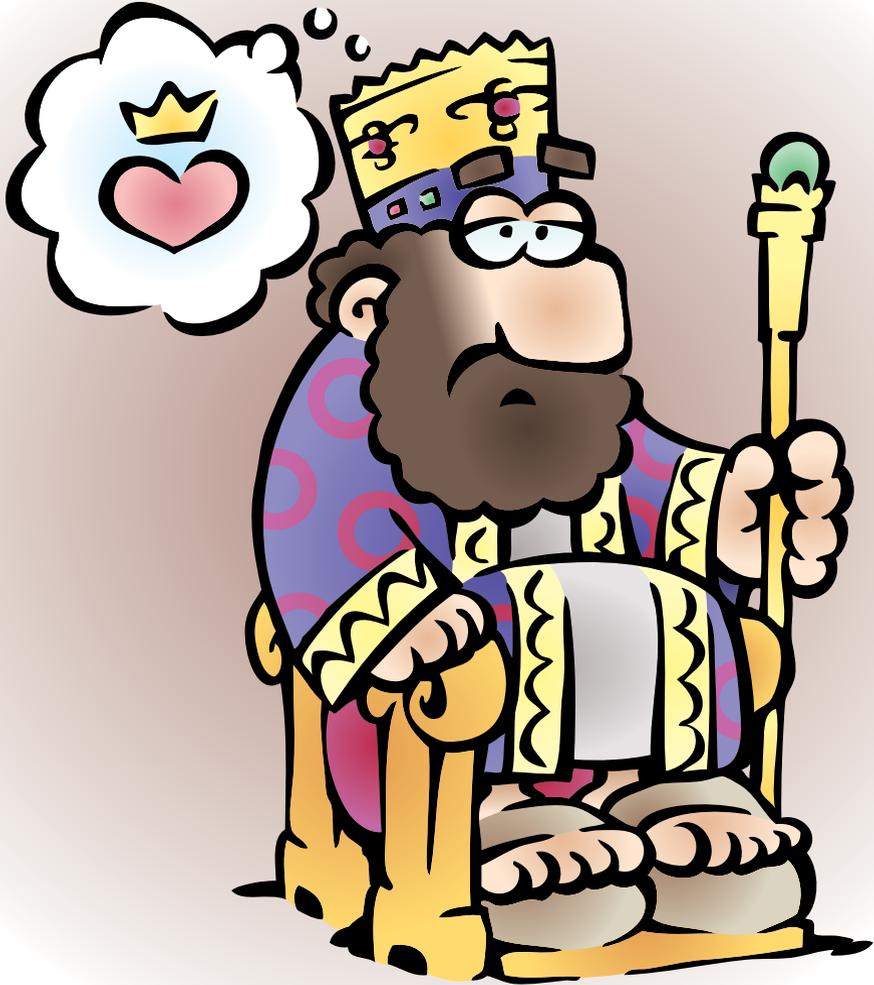


Matthew's teacher signed a true story
from the Bible.

She signed the story about
a girl named Esther.

Matthew watched her sign
the story...





A long time ago,
King Xerxes wanted a new queen.



Many girls were brought to the King.

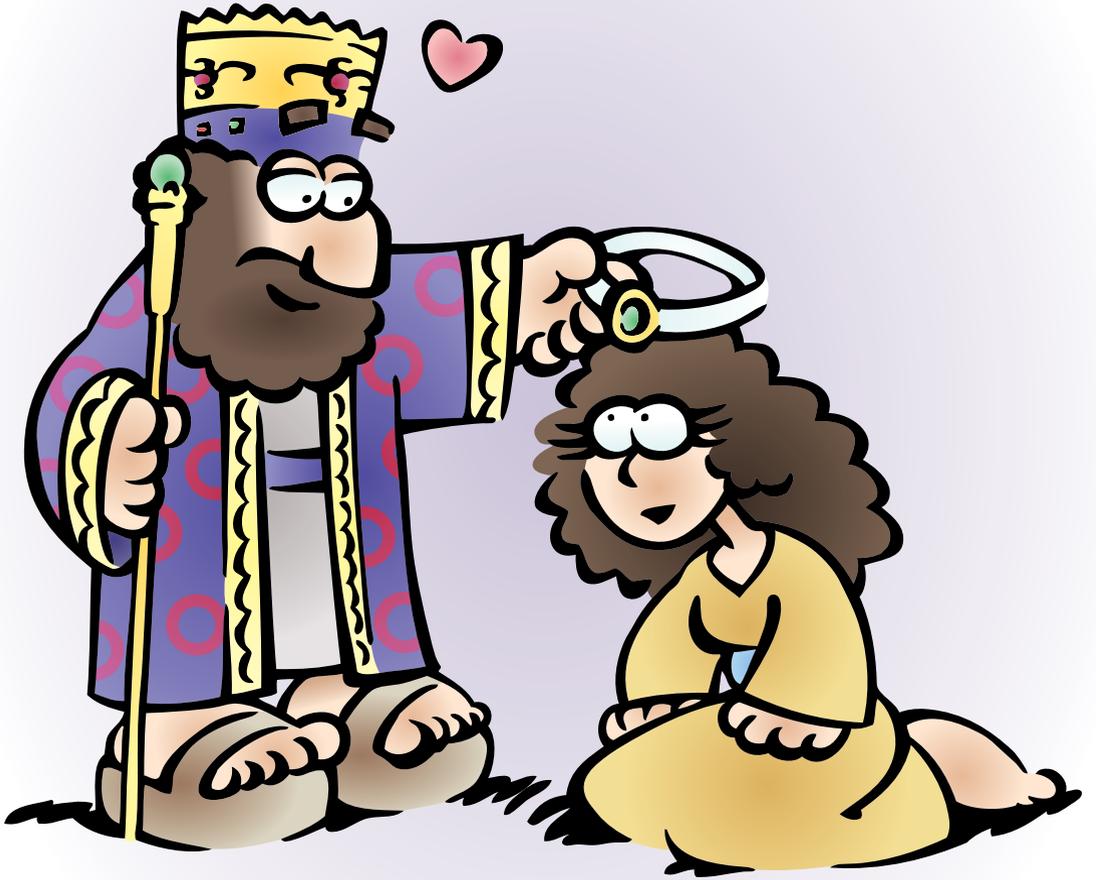
One girl was Esther.

She loved God.



The king liked Esther.

Esther became a queen!



Esther's cousin, Mordecai,
lived in the city.





Mordecai found out about
a bad man named Haman.

Haman did not love God.
Haman wanted to kill everyone
who loved God!





Mordecai told Esther about
Haman's bad plan.





Esther was scared!

Esther and her family loved God.

Esther did not want Haman
to kill her family.

Mordecai told Esther
to ask the king for help.





No one was allowed
to bother the king.

But Esther was brave.





Esther told the king
about Haman's bad plan.



Esther asked the king
for help.



The king did not like Haman's plan!

The king did not let Haman
kill the people who loved God.

Esther was happy that she
had asked the king for help.





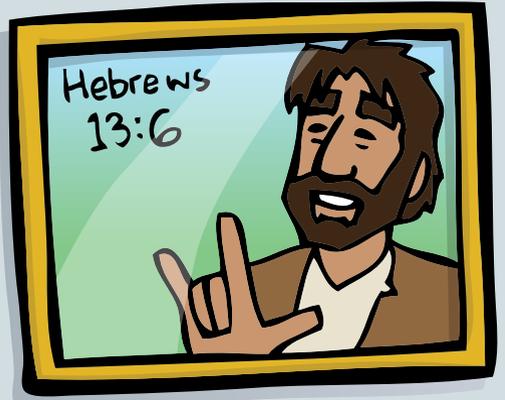
Matthew smiled.
He liked this story.

Matthew wanted to be brave, too.

God helped Esther and her family. Why?

Because Esther was brave.





Matthew could be brave, too.
He knew God would help him!



Matthew was happy.
He liked learning from the Bible.

Matthew wondered what Bible story
his teacher would sign next week.





About the Author:



Rachel Burkum is a hearing author who specializes in novels, short stories and devotionals. Developing her sign language skills as a child, God led her to work at Deaf Missions where she continued her involvement with deaf people and ministry. Later, she combined her writing and Bible knowledge to create *Matthew's Bible Stories* for deaf children. Rachel is the Store Manager at Deaf Missions.

About the Illustrator:



Matt Keller has been drawing since before the age of three and has been part of Deaf Missions' staff since 1997. He and his wife, Beti, were married in Romania in 2005. They have a son, Avi, and are currently living in Council Bluffs, Iowa.

Matthew is a young deaf boy who loves going to Sunday school. Join him in the classroom as he learns why Esther needed to be very brave and why being brave is important. You'll read about a king, a bad plan and how Esther saved her family!

Follow the *Matthew's Bible Stories* series as Matthew's excitement for the Bible grows.

Share.
Learn.
Have fun!

