



Messy Church at Home Sunday 5th July



Our message: We should find ways to use our God given talents to help our community

Our heroes: **Rahab the Rescuer** **Deborah the Leader**
& **Esther the Defender** Three women in the Bible who Changed their Community

Rahab lived in a city called Jericho. It was a place where many bad things happened and God was not pleased with the people who lived there. Two Hebrew spies were sent to find out what was going on in the city. Rahab rescued the spies by hiding them in her home. She helped them escape – they climbed down a rope which she hung from a high window. Later she and her family were rescued by God before He destroyed Jericho (Joshua 2). Watch : Saddleback Kids → Rahab and the spies
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tWkbq50tH5A>

Deborah was a judge and a prophet and a leader of Israel whose people were being badly treated. She listened to God who one day told her that her people should rise up against their oppressors. She was brave and went with the army and they won. After that they had peace for many years. (Judges 4).

Watch : Crossroads Kids Club → God's Story → Deborah
(Young kids version)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GakKDNn2_YE

Esther was a beautiful Israelite girl who became Queen when she married King Xerxes. He reigned over many different groups of people including the Israelites. The King was persuaded by some bad men to hurt the Israelites

but Esther bravely stood up for her people. She cleverly planned a huge banquet when she asked the King not to harm them because she was also an Israelite. He agreed and so she protected them from harm. It was important that she was in the right place at the right time (Esther).

Watch : Gracelink → Esther

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d3S4RBK0-5k>

Activities See following pages for instructions. Hopefully you will have most of the materials needed. You just need to decide which activities are suitable for the age group of your family.

How about taking some photos of your Messy session and sending them to Max@bedhampton.church

1. Be a spy with secret messages
2. Help the spies escape
3. Red cord prayers
4. Make a collage of Deborah
5. Do an edible craft!
6. Make a sword bookmark
7. Make Esther a crown
8. Make sweets for a banquet
9. Prepare for a banquet
10. Prayer Shack
11. Have a quiet time colouring and puzzling



No Messy Sunday session would be complete without food! Maybe help to organise a 'banquet' for your family?!



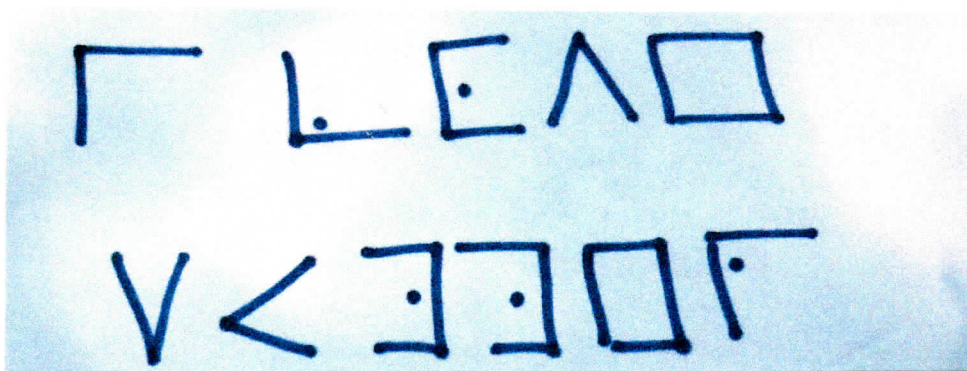
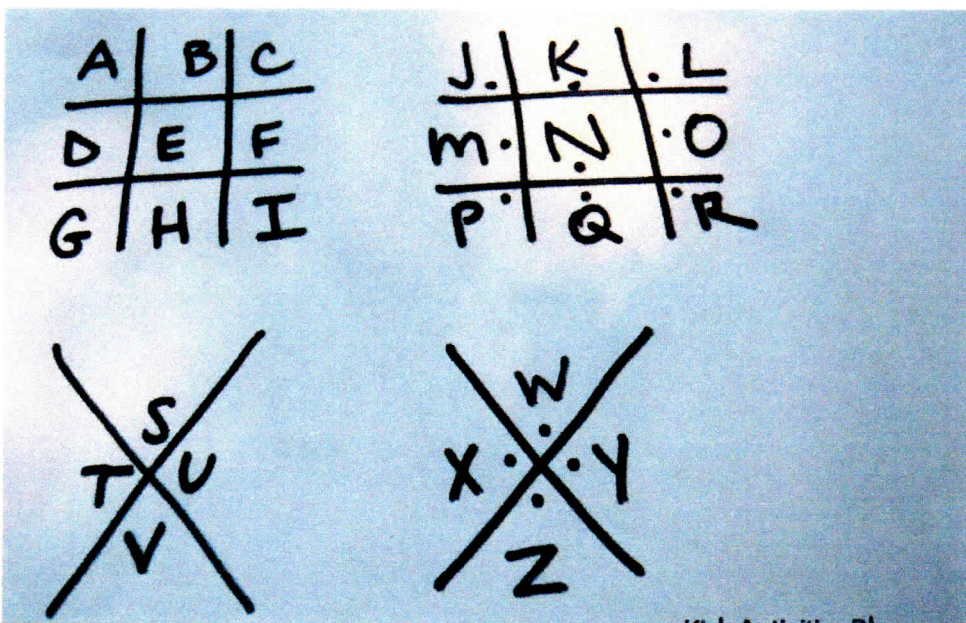
ACTIVITIES FOR MESSY AT HOME - WOMEN IN THE BIBLE

1. Be a spy with secret messages. Amaze your friends!

Squeeze half a lemon into a small bowl add a few drops of water and stir. Dip a cotton bud into the mixture and write a short message on a piece of white paper. Wait for the juice to dry so that it is invisible. Ask an adult to put the paper in a very hot oven on a metal tray. Keep an eye on it and don't let it catch fire! Can you see your message? Write a secret message to someone and get them to read it by putting it in the oven! Perhaps they could send you a reply?

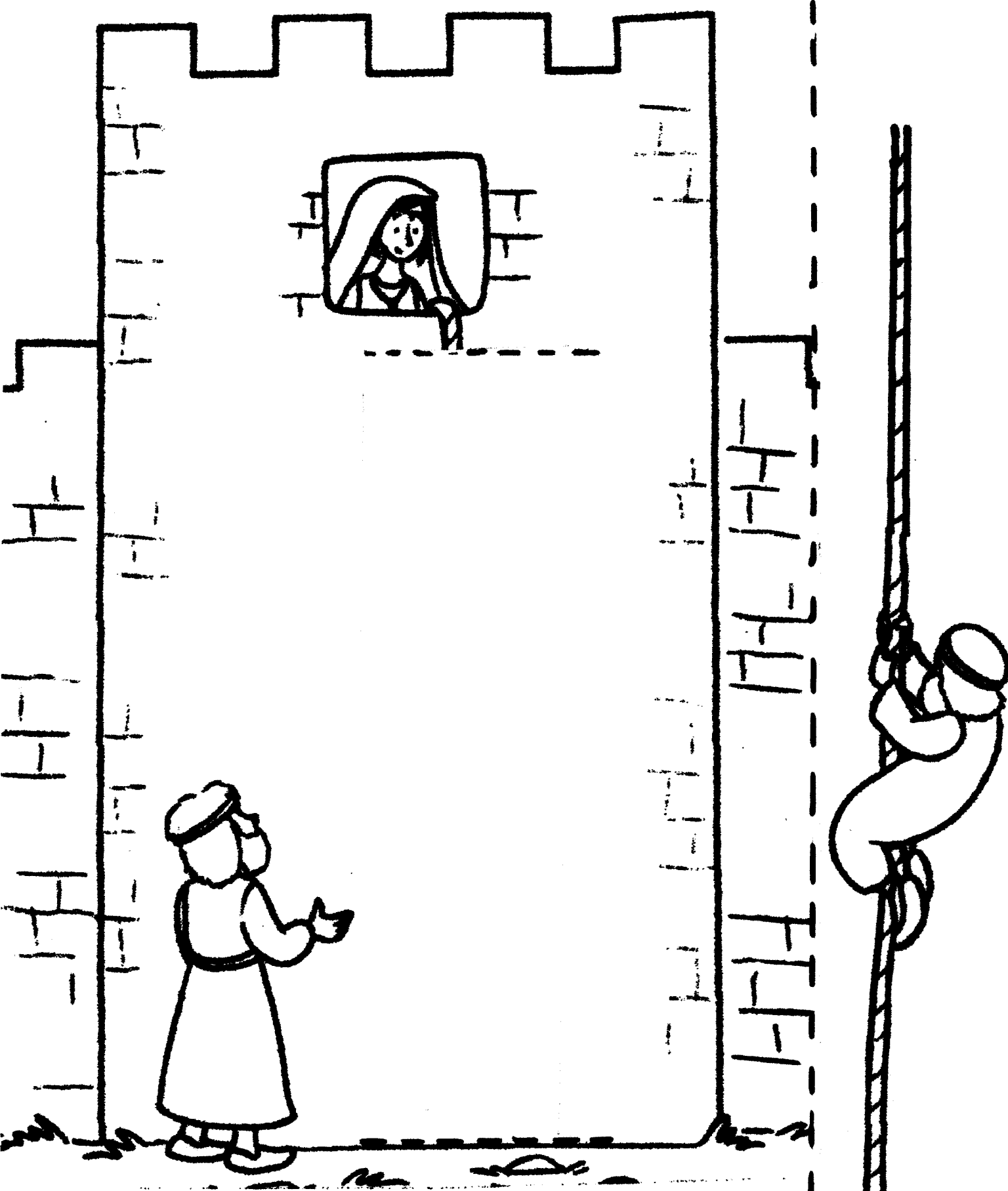
Secret codes.

- Read the words backwards : HCRUHC YSSEM YOJNE
- Read every other letter : RTAEHDAMBWPWCAXS
ADRFEWSLCHUZESR
- Use the Pig Pen Code. Each letter is represented by the lines around it.
Can you work it out?



This message means - I love summer

Practice writing names and silly words with the codes. Then maybe you could write someone a letter- don't forget to send them the code!



2. Help the spies escape Colour the picture then cut along the dotted lines. Thread the strip of paper through the slots and move the strip down so that the spy 'climbs' down the rope to the bottom. He can climb up as well!

3. Red Cord Prayers

The spies told Rahab to tie a red cord in her window so that they knew which was her house. When Jericho was attacked, she and her family were rescued by the Israelites. The red cord saved her – they knew where she was and had promised to rescue her just as she had rescued the spies.

Find something red which you can use to make a 'cord'. Make it like a piece of rope about 50cm long. You could use string, wool, a strip of paper

Think about the week that has just gone by. Use your thumbs to pray ; Thumbs up to thank God . Thumbs down to say sorry to God. Thumbs outwards to pray for others. Thumbs inwards to pray for ourselves.

Write some of your prayers on small pieces of paper and use clothes pegs to attach them to your red 'cord'. This is a reminder that God hears your prayers and will protect you just as he saved Rahab.



4. Make a collage of Deborah

Deborah was a strong leader and one of her roles was as an Israelite Judge. Unlike the judges of today her main job was to keep the peace and sort out people's problems rather than punishing them. She did this by sitting under a palm tree where the people came to speak to her. She listened to what God said to her and guided the Israelites in what they should do.

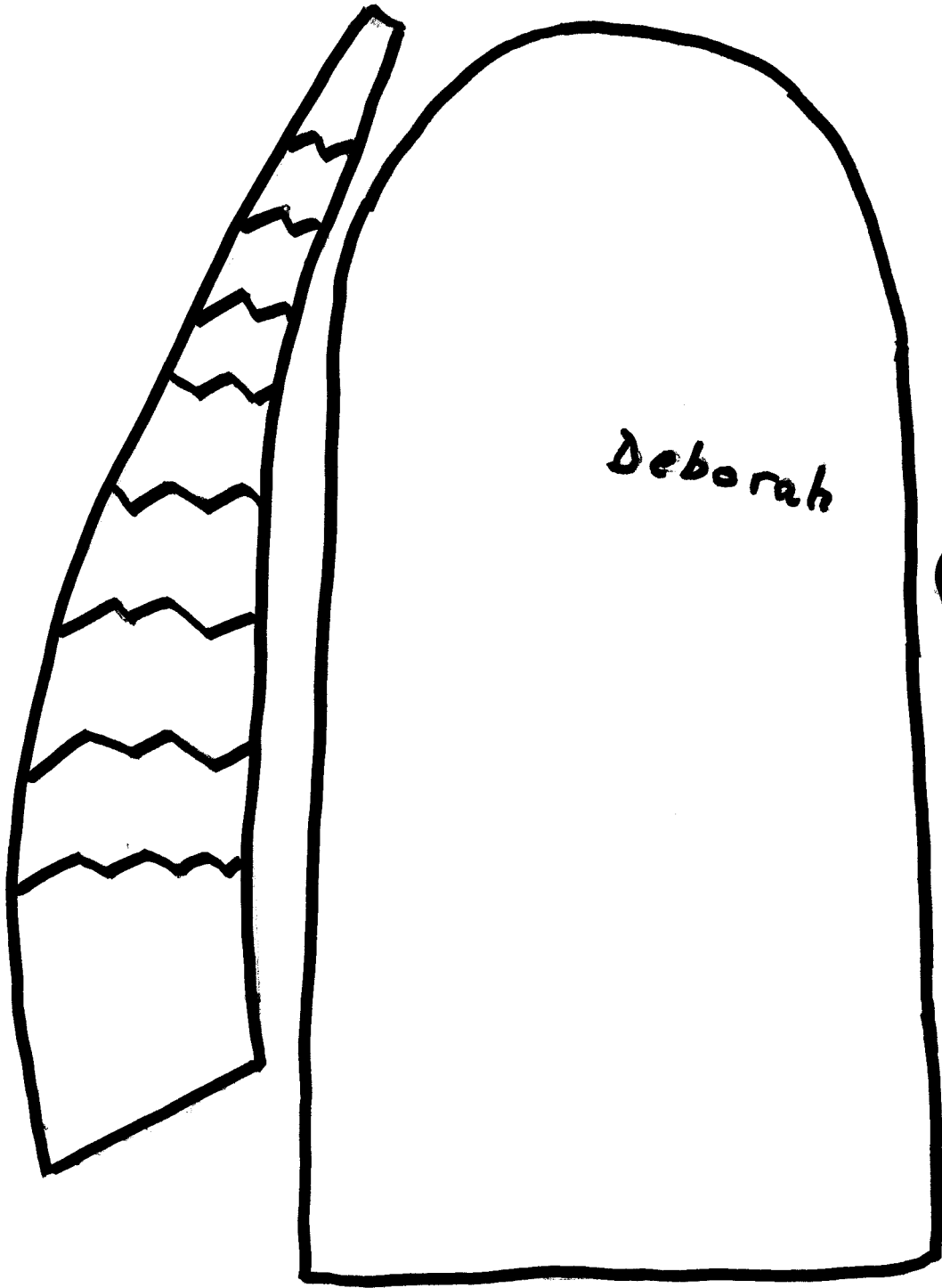
On the next page you will find some pieces of a collage to make a picture. Colour and cut out the pieces and then stick them on a backing page to show Deborah sitting under the tree (you could use card if you like). This picture reminds us of how we should listen to God, read the Bible and live how Jesus wants us to.



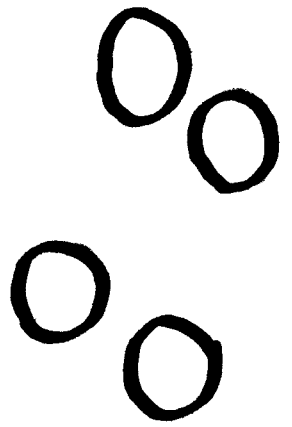
5. Do an edible craft!

Make an edible palm tree for Deborah!
You will need a green apple, some blueberries and a peperami sausage or two or three chocolate matchmakers to make the trunk.
Enjoy!





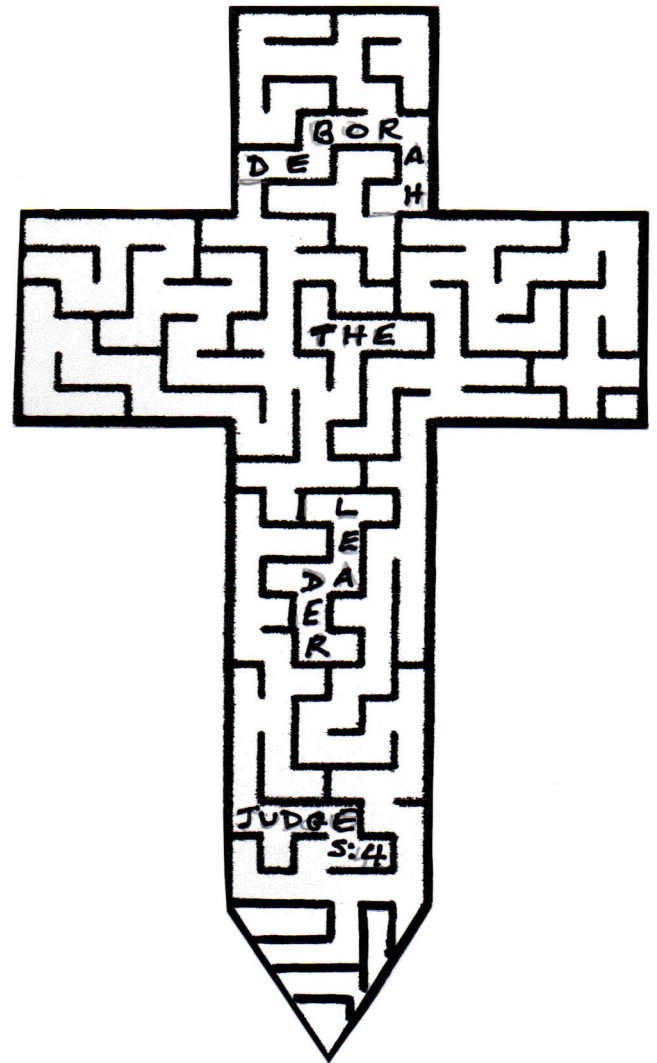
Deborah



6. Make a sword bookmark

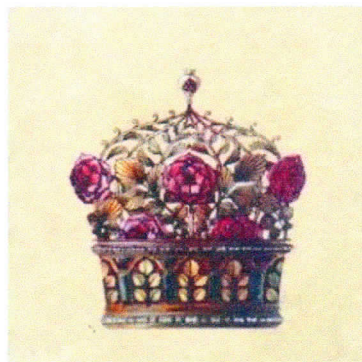
As well as being a Judge, Deborah was a brave warrior and didn't hesitate when the leaders of the Israelite army said they would only fight if she went with them! God had told her to go – so she did. The Israelite army needed strong weapons to fight with against an army with 900 chariots!

As Christians today we can use the cross of Jesus as a way of protecting ourselves against bad people and situations in the world. Make this bookmark to remind you of that. Copy it onto card, cut it out and colour it – or use coloured card. You could use it in your Bible.



7. Make crowns for Esther and Xerxes

Really go for it! Be as flamboyant as you like! Gold, silver (how about foil?), jewels, feathers (made of card?), fabric, origami. You could have a family crown making competition (did you see the ones the Crosses made for Pentecost? – look on the Bedhampton website!). Will you go for big and flashy or small and perfectly formed? Raid the recycling bin – and have fun!



!!ONLY KIDDING!!

8. Make sweets for a banquet

Esther used her charm and influence to persuade her husband, the King, not to harm her people, the Israelites. Part of her plan included her skill as a hostess and influencer – she prepared a banquet and spoke to Xerxes during the banquet. It worked a treat and he promised not to harm her people. She was very brave to take the risk. I'm sure there would have been many delicious foods at the banquet. Let's make something delicious to remind us of Esther – she was in the right place at the right time to save her people.

One bowl chocolate fudge recipe (makes 48!):

400g plain chocolate, 1x375g tin condensed milk,

2 tspns vanilla extract, 180g walnuts

(or other chopped nuts or glace cherries)



Line an 8" square tin with foil. Chop the chocolate and then microwave it on high with the condensed milk. Stir a couple of times until the chocolate is soft (2/3 mins). Stir until smooth then add the vanilla and walnuts. Spread in the prepared tin. Refrigerate for about 2 hours until firm. Cut into small squares. Enjoy – with lots of other people!!

9. Prepare for a 'banquet'

- a. If you enjoy playing with soft toys/dolls then prepare a picnic/banquet for your favourites. Make/decorate paper plates and cups. Fold napkins in a pretty way. Perhaps you could make some pretend food and drink using coloured paper/card/tissue paper. If it's sunny have your banquet in the garden.
- b. A banquet/posh dinner needs lots of decoration on the tables. Perhaps you could make small flower arrangements either using real flowers or ones you have made. Look online for clever ways of folding napkins. How about making placemats and coasters – if you have access to a laminator that works well. Offer to lay the table for a family meal and use some of the things you have made.

10. Prayer Shack

Use the red cord you made in number 3 and add more prayers to it – or make another one. Write prayers asking God to protect and support those who, like Rahab, rescue us in the Community and in our families – doctors, nurses, fire fighters etc Also, for the leaders, like Deborah, in our Community – politicians, clergy and others in positions of authority. Also for defenders, like Esther, in our Community, like police, armed forces, social workers – those who stand up for right.

11. Have a quiet time colouring and puzzling (if you're not fed up with home schooling worksheets!!)

Rahab

Rahab helped two Israelite spies hide and later escape from her house in Jericho.

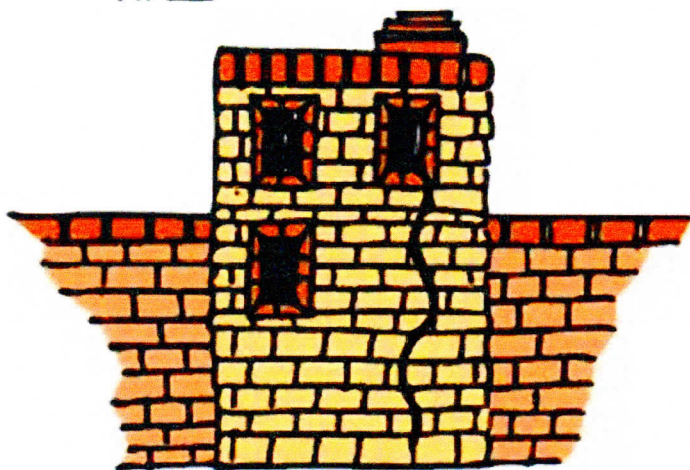
The following words were taken from Joshua 2. Find and circle them in the word search.

JOSHUA
NUN
SENT
SPY
JERICHO
RAHAB

JORDAN
SWEAR
LORD
SAVE
HIDE
WALL

KING
ISRAEL
TWO
GATE
ROOF

CORD
SCARLET
OATH
STALKS
FLAX



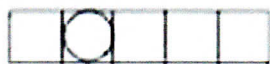
S L K I N G B O S I F T
E W O S P Y A J Q O L S
L J E R I C H O O Y A K
L O M A D E A R P V X L
A S S E R T R D E L I A
W H E L H S C A R L E T
N U N E D I H N U S W S
G A T E L L O D R O C I



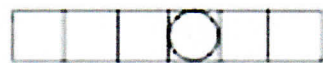
Deborah Was a Judge in Israel Word Scramble

Unscramble each of the clue words. Take the letters that appear in the circle boxes and unscramble them to find the answer to the last phrase.

MORTS



SIPERA



AANANC



KABAR



WORDS



BORHAED



What did Sisera have that scared the Israelites?

He had 900



Queen Esther

Use the code to color the picture.

| | | |
|------------|------------|------------|
| 1 = purple | 3 = green | 5 = blue |
| 2 = red | 4 = yellow | 6 = orange |

