

PURIM - TABLE TALK CARDS

Materials:

11 cards

Directions:

1. Cut apart the cards

It seems as though Queen Vashti gets more cheers for defying the king than timid Queen Esther. Is it because we like our heroes to be bold and fiercely embrace their cause.

What are your thoughts on this?

Vashti's actions of defying the king did not bring lasting changes in the kingdom. And things got harder for the other wives. When Mordechai stands up to power, he too, can not make lasting changes. His actions lead to a death decree for all the Jews.

What do you do in this situation?

Esther uses caution and forethought to undo the Jewish decree. This brings enduring change to the kingdom.

How do you go about making change in something that is important to you?

God is not part of the Purim story. The story of Purim is considered to be a hidden miracle. Wearing a costume can symbolize this hidden miracle. So, consider that everyone wears masks and they wear them every day. If we remember this, it will help us to judge all people favorably knowing that beneath the mask there is a spark of God in all of us.

What are your thoughts on this?

You are Queen Vashti

You give a banquet for the wives of all your husband's guests. The King's messenger comes to summon you to his banquet.

Should you go?

You are Mordechai

You see Haman approaching. You know there is a law that all must bow down to him.

What will you do?

You are Jews of Shushan

You just heard Haman's decree (about the fate of the Jews) given in the king's name.

What do you do?

You are Haman

You just returned home from leading Mordecai through the streets of Shushan because he saved the king's life.

What is going through your head?

You are Mordechai

You have been made second to King Ahashverosh.

How will you use your power?

You are Esther

You have just been chosen to be queen.

Should you reveal your Jewish identity? Why?/Why not?

You are King Ahachverosh

You just heard that Vashti refused to obey you and come to the banquet.

What will you do about it?