VeggieTales: Esther Discussion Questions

The following are discussion questions for <u>VeggieTales: Esther</u>, the <u>Girl Who Became</u> <u>Queen</u> (free version with commercials). Please feel free to use these questions in your small group, Bible study, Sunday school, and adult, college, youth or children's group for a fun and lively discussion.

- 1. What similarities and differences do you notice between the VeggieTales version and the biblical text?
- 2. Why do you think they added those differences in their retelling of the story?
 - a. Some changes were made to make the movie appropriate for children. What changes would fall under this category? Why would they need to make these changes in order for it to be a children's movie?
 - b. Some changes were made for entertainment value and humor. What changes would fall under this category?
 - c. Some changes were made for other reasons. What are some other possible reasons that they made these changes?
 - i. One important difference is that they include references to God very explicitly in the movie version. Why would they have included this?
 - ii. What does the movie version gain by explicitly mentioning God?
 What does it lose from the original version of the story in the Bible?
- 3. The movie does have many similarities as it tries to capture the main storyline from the Bible. If you were to summarize the main storyline of Esther in a few sentences, what would it be?
 - a. What would you say is the main takeaway, meaning, or lesson from the plot of Esther?
 - b. What would you say is the main takeaway, meaning or lesson from the VeggieTales version of Esther?
 - c. What would you say is the main takeaway, meaning or lesson from the way the Bible tells the story of Esther?
- 4. In the VeggieTales version, Mordecai tells Esther, "You never need to be afraid to do what's right." Do you think this is true? Why or why not? Why would this be a lesson we would want to teach kids? What could be a hazard of this message if unqualified?
- 5. If you could connect the VeggieTales story of Esther more directly to the gospel message and Jesus, how would you do it?