

# MYSTERY



## Blessed Are Who?

**This is the Games Guide for Day One.  
The complete Guide is available online at  
[bannerblue.org](http://bannerblue.org).**



## Day One: Blindfold Bedtime

**These games are intended to be played at home by a family or with a small group of neighbors or friends. During this time of the Covid-19 Pandemic, these games are not intended for large groups or public spaces. Please remind the kids to wash their hands frequently and to wear masks when needed.**

**Key Beatitude:** Blessed are **the merciful**, for they will receive mercy.

**Character Story:** Esther the Courageous Queen

**Game Overview:** Today the kids will simply get ready for bed while wearing a blindfold. We've given you some other fun challenges to do while blindfolded as well.

**Learning Objective:** What is it like to move around differently? We often assume that being differently-abled is a bad thing. Being different is not bad. With practice someone who is blind, deaf, in a wheelchair, or is different in other ways can do just about anything you can do. They can even do some things that you can't. Being different is good.

### Supplies Needed:

- A blindfold (lab goggles that are covered in something make the best blindfolds; bandanas also work well)

### Questions to ask the kids while you're playing together:

- What's the easiest thing you do during the day?
- Could you do that thing if you were blind?
- What's the hardest thing you do during the day?
- Could you do that thing if you were blind?
- Could a blind person do anything with enough creativity and practice?
- What are things that a blind person is better at doing than people who can see?

**Game Instructions:**

1. Explain to the kids that this evening they will be getting ready for bedtime as if they are blind. Assure them that while it will be tough, you will be there to guide them.
2. Decide whether you want each child to do this one at a time or all at once before proceeding.
3. Give the child a blindfold and make sure it is secure over their eyes.
4. Help the kids through whatever bedtime routine is normal. Here are some example tasks to complete:
  - A. Put on pajamas
  - B. Brush teeth
  - C. Climb into bed and pull up the covers
  - D. Read a bedtime story
  - E. Pray

Moving between the bedroom and bathroom or any other necessary space should also be completed with a blindfold and guidance.

5. Take off the blindfold so the child can go to sleep.

**Other fun challenges to take on while blindfolded:**

- Challenge each kid to write their name.
- Challenge each kid to draw a smiley face.
- Challenge each kid to make a pb&j sandwich (be prepared for a mess!).
- Challenge each kid to change the batteries in the TV remote.
- Challenge each kid to find something of your choice in the fridge.

**Lesson Reflection:** We take for granted how easy these tasks are when we can see. Yet, these tasks are also relatively simple for someone who has been blind for some time. Practice is what makes the tasks easy. Whether





you can see or you are blind, you are capable of doing simple things and great things. When someone has different life experiences from you it might be difficult to understand or appreciate the challenges that they face. We should take the time to understand and appreciate other people's experiences. Esther lived in a time when the people in charge didn't try to understand people who were different. Because of this, Esther had to fight for her people to be safe. She showed great courage in doing this. Today we are much better at understanding differences and even celebrate people who are different from us. Being blindfolded has helped us to understand how coordinated and careful someone who is blind needs to be. Jesus' beatitudes also teach us to live so that others are not just treated fairly but also loved.

### **Extra/Alternative Game: Second Chance Tag**

You will need to designate a playing area with clear boundaries and divide that area in half. Each half will have one "it" person. When a child is tagged she simply goes to the other half of the play area until she is tagged again. This game continues on forever so you will need to pause periodically and change the "it" people. You can also have older kids attempt to tag the "it" person from behind in order to win the game. Esther understood what it was like to be treated differently. She did not have a safe place to go if things went wrong, except that she could always trust in God. Jesus has taught us to be welcoming and to celebrate differences. In Second Chance Tag you always have a safe place to go.