

June 20, 2013

EXTREME FAITH

What makes a hero?

"A person, who makes a radial impact on another person causing that person to be completely changed because of the interaction or experience."

What Makes A Hero?

STRENGTH IS FOR SERVICE NOT STATUS
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WHAT MAKES A HERO?

Every Hero has a decision to make...

Decisions, we all have them, what will we do with the day, what we will eat, what will we wear as we head out the door. Some decisions are easy and we make them with out any thought. Like Breakfast for me, every morning, the same thing 1/2 a cup of slow cook oatmeal, with a banana and a cup of coffee. Keeping some decisions simple well it helps keep our lives simple, and less complicated.

Hero's have decisions to make as well and when we take a look at them they are not always so easy to make. Like our bottom line for tonight, "strength is for service not status." A hero has the character trait of strength, which can be physical strength, or mentally strength. No matter which one it is a hero can stand up in the storm and have confidence that they can face it. Hero's are strong that way. But with great strength there is a decision to be made, use your strength for status or use your strength for service. A true hero understands that their strength is to be used to serve others. Some false hero's use their strength for status.

Isn't that the way it is in any great action story you have people with great strength who serve and defend people, and you have a villain who seeks to use their

strength for their status. The true hero ends up fighting the villain who only seeks personal gain and status. They both have incredible strength, but only one is a true hero.

Strength alone does not make one a hero. A hero chooses to use their strength to serve others. Many people have great strength, but only a few ever become a hero, because only a few ever choose to use their strength to serve others.

Think about the people who are hero's to you, you see them as someone with strength, and you pull from and have access to their strength because they choose to serve you. If they did not serve you and give you a greater vision for your life you would not see them as a hero.

As we continue our journey this summer we need to ask this question. "When will we take our strength and choose to serve those who need our strength?" Everyone of us has strength everyone of us can serve others, it is a decision to use our strength to serve that make us all hero's.

Mark 10:45 "That is what the Son of Man has done: He came to serve, not to be served-- and then to give away his life in exchange for many who are held hostage."

**Strength is for
service not
status**

Jesus said this about himself and his mission here on the earth. "He came to serve, not to be served... Wow what a reality check, I mean I love being served, I love it when I just sit down and start eating, without having to do anything. Who doesn't like being served. But when we think about our mission, our goal in life we have to model Jesus, and look for ways everyday that we can serve, not be served. Adapting or mission to a mission of service makes a radical change in our lives as well as the lives of the people around us. Who will you serve with your strength today?"

What Makes a Hero?

Hero by Superchick

No one sits with him, he doesn't fit in
But we feel like we do when we make fun of him
Cause you want to belong, do you go along?
Cause his pain is the price paid for you to belong
It's not like you hate him or want him to die
But maybe he goes home and thinks suicide
Or he comes back to school with a gun at his side
And a kindness from you might have saved his life

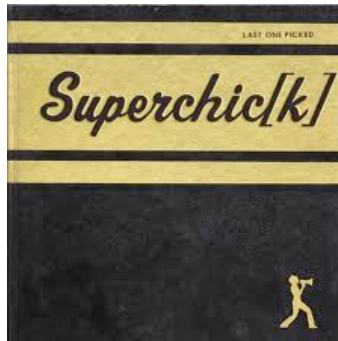
Heroes are made when you make a choice

You could be a hero - heroes do what's right
You could be a hero - you might save a life
You could be a hero- you could join the fight
For what's right, for what's right, for what's right
No one talks to her, she feels so alone
She's in too much pain to survive on her own
The hurt she can't handle overflows to a knife
She writes on her arm and wants to give up her life
Each day she goes on is a day that she's brave
Fighting the lie that giving up is the way
Each moment of courage her on life she saves
When she throws the pills out a hero is made
Heroes are made when you make a choice

No one talks to him about how he lives
He thinks that the choices he makes are just his
Doesn't know he's the leader with the way he
behaves
And others will follow the choices he's made
He lives on the edge, he's old enough to decide
His brother who wants to be him is just nine
He can do what he wants because it's his right
The choices he makes change a nine-year-old's life

Little Mikey D. was the one in class who everyday
got brutally harassed
This went on for years until he decided that never
again would he shed another tear
So he walked through the door, grabbed a four-four
out of his father's dresser drawer
And said I can't take life no more
And like that life can be lost
But this ain't even about that
All of us just sat back and watched it happen
Thinkin' it's not my responsibility to solve a
problem that isn't even about me
This is our problem
This is just one of the daily scenarios which we
choose to close our eyes
Instead of doing the right thing
If we make a choice and be the voice for those who
won't speak up for themselves
How many lives would be saved, changed, and
rearranged
Now it's our time to pick a side
So don't keep walkin' by
Not wantin' to intervene
'cause you wanna exist and never be seen
So let's wake up and change the world
Our time is now

You could be a hero (Our time is now)
Heroes do what's right
You could be a hero (Our time is now)
You might save a life
You could be a hero, you could join the fight (Our
time is now)
For what's right, for what's right



This song is featured on the Last One Picked
album by Superchick

REAL LIFE HERO'S

"CRAZY FOR JESUS"

YUN 16 YEARS OLD

MAINLAND CHINA 1950S

"There is a book that tells how to get to heaven?" "Yes, Yun. I have seen it with my own eyes," answered the old man. "Where is this book?" asked Yun. "I must see it for myself!" "It is far away over 35 miles," the old man said sadly. "It is too far to walk* and you have no bicycle." "I will go!" replied Yun.

This young man walked the 35 miles and met with the owner of the Bible. Eventually he was able to get a Bible of his own. Yun then joined with another Christian, and together they went from village to village telling about Jesus. As this was illegal, the police would often come to stop them.

Yun came up with a way around this problem. He had read in 1 Samuel 21:13 that David once pretended to be crazy to escape from his enemies. When the police came, Yun did the same thing: he made a spectacle of himself. The police laughed at him and let him go. After they were gone, he would become serious again and continue to speak to the people about salvation. Before long, however, Yun was cruelly beaten and put in prison for his faith. Afterwards, he had to stand public trial in a marketplace.

Yun was small and thin. He was dressed in rags and barefoot, his face deformed from the beatings. The judge said to him, "We will give you one last chance to save your life. If you leave the underground church and join the Three-Self Patriotic Church, we will make you one of its leaders." Yun remained silent. He knew the government church worked closely with the Communists and often turned house-church Christians in to be imprisoned or beaten. The judge brought in a doctor who said to him sarcastically, "I will heal your dumbness!" The doctor forced needles under Yun's fingernails. When Yun passed out, the policemen walked on his body saying, "Your stubbornness led to this." He was brought back to a cell where other prisoners urinated on him. His only treasure was a tin cup on which he had painted a cross. This was thrown in the toilet. Weeping, he fished it out and pressed it to his heart. Yun fasted often, praying for the Chinese churches, his fellow inmates, and himself. He was finally released after ten years, still strong in faith and refusing any compromise with the world or with the government-supported church.

God deliberately chose things the world considers foolish in order to shame those who think they are wise...so that no one can ever boast in the presence of God...As the Scriptures say, "The person who wishes to boast should boast only of what the Lord has done."

Paul the Apostle Beheaded in Rome, 65 AD
(1 CORINTHIANS 1:27,29,31 NLT)

BEING A HERO

EXTREME APPLICATION

Strength is for service not status. Think about how strong you are, believe it or not you are strong, stronger than a super hero. Your strength lives inside of you and grows outside of you when you serve others who need your help. You and your service can change the world and make a lasting impressions on everybody you will ever know.

Be who you are, Be a hero serve someone today!

Think About it (The tension of being a hero)

There is tension in serving others, yes the culture today cheers when there is news of someone or a group of people serving others. However that is not the norm, the culture drives home that we are to take care of ourselves, stay in the popular group, make friends who will benefit you and your status. Serving in the culture today is more of an event than it is a life style.

To truly be a hero serving must be a lifestyle not an event not a thing we do when it is convenient, or benefits us.

So how about it? How good are you at being a servant to others. The mindset of a servant is this: The needs of the people around them are more important than the needs of themselves. How easy is it to put into action? It's not easy it costs us something to put others before our own needs. That is where the tension comes from.

How can you beat the tension and become a hero? Look for chances to serve all the time.

Ask this question: How can I help?

Just ask it all the time look around see what is going on, and ask "how can I help?" The more that you live that way the more you become a hero by choice and not a hero by event. The tension will come but you will be the hero in the tension!

Romans 15:2 Each one of us needs to look after the good of the people around us, asking ourselves, "How can I help?"



DIG IN

Read Romans 15 1-2 (The Message) Those of us who are strong and able in the faith need to step in and lend a hand to those who falter, and not just do what is most convenient for us. Strength is for service, not status. 2 Each one of us needs to look after the good of the people around us, asking ourselves, "How can I help?"

What does it mean to serve?

What strengths do you have that you can use to serve others?

When can you ask the question "How Can I Help?"
(give some examples)

How does this verse help you define what makes a hero?

Hero: "Strength is for service not status"

Look it over, read the story again, dig into the questions and write out your thoughts...

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.