

May 17, 2017

EXTREME FAITH

What makes a hero?

"A hero is a person, who makes a radical impact on another person causing that person to be changed for the better..." "The radical change occurs when you" use your strength to serve..." "As you jump into situations to help others you are letting them know they matter..."

As you help others you are being led by God because you follow God, you will make an impact on the ones that you are helping, because you follow God, your story will be marked with the finger print of God... You will have endurance for the battle because you will depend on God for all things...

Discipline sets our minds focus on God and allows all things to be possible...

What Makes A Hero?

A HERO IS DISCIPLINED AND THEIR LIVES SHOW IT...

WHAT MAKES A HERO?

Name:

A hero is disciplined and their lives shows it...

Want to be a hero? Want to press on and fight on! Do you want to finish the race and see the finish line! If you do then that is great! Let me introduce you to your new best friend, Discipline is his name. It is a character trait that every hero needs so that they might finish the race! Discipline keeps us on track and keeps us focused on the end goal that is before us.

Think about it this way, have you ever had so many things going on that you lost track of all the things that were going on. You did not know what you needed to do and life just seemed a little crazy? Chances are you did not have discipline as a friend during that moment of your life.

Dictionary.com defines discipline this way:
1. training to act in accordance with rules; drill: military discipline.

2. activity, exercise, or a regimen that develops or improves a skill; training.

Discipline keeps you on target and on track with the things that you have going on in your life! What are your disciplines? What are the things that you do every day no matter what. It is just what you do, no matter what. These things are the starting point of discipline. From there we need to add things that are tied directly to your end goal, and help you develop the skills you

need for your end goal. The book of Hebrews 12:1-2 puts it this way: It means we'd better get on with it. Strip down, start running-- and never quit! No extra spiritual fat, no parasitic sins. Keep your eyes on Jesus. In our race we need discipline to keep running! We need focus to stay the course. We need to strip down and get rid of anything that does not allow our eyes to stay focused on Jesus. We need to press into Him. Without discipline we quickly believe that we are doing great and we believe that we have everything under control, but it is only an illusion. Before we know it we have junk hanging on us thoughts that slow us down. We are not running as fast as we could be running, we are only walking and we think we are running. Discipline allows us to stay focused and in tune with all that is before us. Before we know it we are fat with stuff that we think brings us closer to God, but really it is just wasted time, and we allow stupid sin to hang onto us. Discipline makes us the heroes that we all long to be because everyday is used to run the race and to fight for the kingdom! What are your disciplines? How fast are you running?

**A HERO IS
DISCIPLINED...**



Discipline, not always the coolest word especially for us who are not the most disciplined people. But man when you can find a groove, it sure feels good and you get things accomplished! Think if you prayed for your friends every day and spent time listening to God everyday! These things take discipline and focus. To be the hero that God made you to be you will need discipline on your side!

Real Life Hero's

Making Every Minute Count

Patrick Hamilton

23 years old

Scotland 1527

The handsome young man on the scaffold turned to his servant and comforted him, saying, "What I am about to suffer, dear friend, appears fearful and bitter to the flesh. But remember, it is the entrance to everlasting life, which none shall possess who deny their Lord." Young Patrick Hamilton had all he needed for success: born of royal blood, he was intelligent and talented, pleasant and gentle. While at school, he embraced the teachings of Martin Luther. With Luther he felt that the Bible, not edicts of the established church, held the true foundation for the Christian faith and the relationship of each person to God. Soon his views got him in trouble with the local church government and the crown, so he escaped to Germany.

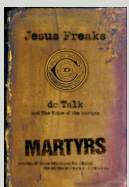
There, at the University of Marburg, he experienced a great change. Where before he had been skeptical and timid, he now became courageous. Each day he increased in knowledge and, inflamed with godliness, decided to return to Scotland to take the truth of God's Word to his own countrymen. When he returned to Scotland, he immediately began to preach the truths he had learned. After a short time, he was ordered to appear before the Archbishop. He was so on fire with his message that he did not want to wait for his appointment, but came very early in the morning. Although he argued powerfully, he was arrested and put in prison. Many tried to get Hamilton to change his mind, or at least to convince him to stop preaching his beliefs and disturbing the established church. But he did not back down from his stand. In fact, his faith was so contagious that a priest who visited his cell was also converted. The day came for him to be sentenced to death. That same day, after dinner, he was led away to be burned at the stake.

When his executioners had difficulty keeping the fire lit, he used it as one last opportunity to preach to those who were standing near. "How long, O God," he cried, "shall darkness cover this kingdom? How long will You allow this tyranny of men?" At last, the fire consumed him. As he died, he cried out, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit."

The day Hamilton was burned at the stake, someone dared to say to his persecutors: "If you are going to burn any more, you had better do it in a cellar, for the smoke of Hamilton's burning has opened the eyes of hundreds." Jesus Freaks make the most of every opportunity to share Jesus. Patrick Hamilton preached in prison and at the stake. Do you make your opportunities count for eternity? Act like people with good sense and not like fools. These are evil times, so make every minute count...find out what the Lord wants you to do.

Paul the Apostle Martyred in Rome,

65 AD (EPHESIANS 5:15-17 CEV)



Featured Story
from the book
Jesus Freaks do
Talk and the
voice of the
Martyrs

BEING A HERO

EXTREME APPLICATION

You have to press in and you have to want it. So much of our faith is based on us just being a christian. We say we are a christian and that's it. We need to press in and run after God and the Kingdom!

We have to fight to grow our faith, and we have to take risk for our friends, and a world who desperately need to know Jesus. So cowboy up and charge on and go for it. Dig in with discipline!

Think About it (The tension of Discipline)

What will you have to give up? What will have to change in your life if you are going to go after God with all that you have? Discipline is not for the weak, soft, or the person who will not take risk!

Discipline is for the person who will go after what is theirs and take it. God has called us to go after the kingdom and bring our friends along.

To see your family and your friends come to know who Jesus is, it is going to take discipline. It is going to take prayer, it is going to take you living a life that is not for you, but for the kingdom! For Jesus! You will have to press in, study, pray, grow your faith, and take risk! Discipline is a win or fail objective. If you apply discipline, then you take a risk that you might fail, but we have to apply discipline if we are going to be the hero that God has called us to! Being a Hero is a risk!

What are your disciplines, how often and how long do you pray, read the bible, hang out with God? We have to be a people who will leave it all behind and run after God. To live any other way is just to live, but not be a hero!

To be a hero and a Jesus follower you will have to lose sleep, you will have to fight on in prayer into the late hours of the night! You will have to believe beyond what you believe today! You will have to live the dream, the dream of being a follower of Jesus.

Apply discipline and run after Jesus and this will not be your typical church life, this will be the most incredible life that you ever dreamed you could have! GET IN THE RACE AND APPLY DISCIPLINE TO YOUR LIFE TODAY!



Dig In

Read Hebrews 12: 1-2 (The Message) Do you see what this means-- all these pioneers who blazed the way, all these veterans cheering us on? It means we'd better get on with it. Strip down, start running-- and never quit! No extra spiritual fat, no parasitic sins. Keep your eyes on Jesus, who both began and finished this race we're in. Study how he did it. Because he never lost sight of where he was headed-- that exhilarating finish in and with God-- he could put up with anything along the way: cross, shame, whatever. And now he's there, in the place of honor, right alongside God. When you find yourselves flagging in your faith, go over that story again, item by item, that long litany of hostility he plowed through. That will shoot adrenaline into your souls.

BECOMING A

Discipline

Why do you think you need discipline to be a follower of Jesus?

What area of your life is lived under discipline?

What is your goal in your relationship with Jesus?

What are you prepared to do to make that goal a reality?

What area of your life is lived under discipline?

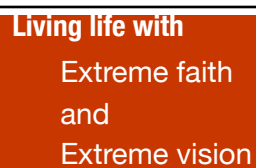
Why do you think you need discipline to be a follower of Jesus?

What is your goal in your relationship with Jesus?

What are you prepared to do to make that goal a reality?

Hero: "A Hero is disciplined and their lives show it..."

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

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