

Real Heroes – Captain America

Life Group Agenda for the week of July 3rd through July 9th

WELCOME (15 min) – Welcome everyone. This is a time for us to focus outward on our relationships with one another. Share the Goals and 1 Guideline. This week, we are continuing our series titled, *Real Heroes*. Let's **stop and pray** for our church at this time.

WORSHIP (15 min) – This is a time for us to focus upward on our relationship with the Lord. Prepare a creative worship time that can be enjoyed by Children as well as adults/teens (*you will be releasing the Children to their Kids Slot time after the worship*).

WORD (45 min) – This is a time for us to focus inward and discover what the Lord is saying to us individually and collectively through His Word. **This week's truth to be shared: Jesus lived a heroic life by going out of His way to help those in need, and desires that we do the same.**

Before Jesus came to earth He was sitting on His throne in heaven. Isaiah chapter six gives us a glimpse into this image. Jesus was calm and in control, seated on His throne as the Lord of lords and the King of all kings. As He sat on His throne, angels worshipped Him crying out "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord!" What makes this story so incredible is that Jesus left His throne to come here and perform great deeds for us and to live among us. He left His safety, His comfort, and His God nature to come to earth and do great things among us including the most amazing thing of all, dying for us and rising from the grave defeating Satan, sin, and death.

Jesus did this to set the captives free bringing salvation to the world. We were a people in need wrecked by the sin in our lives and Jesus came to fix the mess. He saw the need and He met it. He did this as a great example for us to meet the needs of those around us by being Jesus to others so that they might come to know Him.

INTRODUCTION: Why is it that comic book heroes and the heroes in storybooks appeal to us so much?

Allow 5 – 7 minutes for this question.

OBSERVATION: Read Luke 4:16-21. What are the heroic aspects of Jesus communicated in this passage and what could these look like for people today?

Spend about 5 – 7 minutes on this question.

Jesus is full of the Holy Spirit, has been anointed to preach the gospel, proclaim release to the captives, help the blind see, free the oppressed and proclaim the Kingdom of God. These are all exciting ideas that bring great hope to people.

Today there are many people who are not full of the Holy Spirit and lack the wisdom that He can bring. There are people all across the world that need to hear the gospel message. Many are held captive by addictions, poor thinking, misunderstandings, and victimization. There are people who are literally blind, and those who are spiritually blind. Everyone has been oppressed whether by Satan, family members or even sadly, by fellow Christians.

UNDERSTANDING: Jesus was fully God but also fully man. Why is it significant that he referred to having the spirit of the Lord upon him, or the being full of the Holy Spirit?

Spend about 10 minutes on this question.

Luke makes it's a point to regularly mention that Jesus was full of the Holy Spirit. Even Jesus asked for the help of the Holy Spirit to great and amazing things for the Kingdom of God. Jesus was full of the Holy Spirit when he healed people, when he witnessed to people and full of the Holy Spirit when before trying to fill any great needs for people. Scripture regularly reminds us that we must be full of the Holy Spirit when we do ministry.

UNDERSTANDING: When reading a passage like this, what does it tell you about the character of God?

This passage tells us that our God gets involved. This passage tells us that God saw the sin in the world and he did not just sit back and let it take its course but rather got involved and broke the power of Satan, sin, and death. This passage tells us that our God sees our pain, that He sees it when we are oppressed, and He wants to set us free. This passage tells us that our God is for us, He is not against us. This passage tells us that our God loves us so much that He willingly sent his son on a rescue mission to save us. This passage ultimately tells us that even though we made a mess of the perfection that God created, He is going to take responsibility for us anyway, and fix it. That's our Jesus.

APPLICATION: In John 14:12 Jesus says, "Anyone who believes in Me will do the same works that I have done." Which of the heroic aspects of Jesus mentioned in the previous Luke passage are you trying to avoid? How can you live your most heroic life and be a part of setting the captives or the oppressed free? Or preaching the gospel to the poor or helping the blind see?

Spend about 10 minutes on this question.

WITNESS (15 min) –

- ❖ Share any praise reports from your FRAN list that you've been praying for.
- ❖ July 6th – Prayer and Praise Night starts at 7:00pm
- ❖ July 13th – New CoLABorate Classes begin. Which class are you taking?
- ❖ July 29th – Tim Hawkins Concert (tickets are \$15 at the bookstore)
- ❖ August 13th – Leadership Summit
- ❖ Don't stop... SERVE LIKE CRAZY, plan your Life Groups next serve event.
- ❖ Make Shared Ministry Assignments and then Fellowship together.