

Adventures with GOD!

THE TRUE HERO (C.3.FALL.12)

Biblical Reference	Hebrews 11:17-34
Key Verse	Hebrews 12:1
Key Concept	If I fix my eyes on Jesus I can be a true hero.
Educational Objectives	At the end of the class today, the children will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Name the true heroes of faith that they have studied and are mentioned in Hebrews 11 2. Draw an illustration or write a poem that expresses the Bible memory verse 3. Explain three characteristics of a true hero

LIFE APPLICATION:

As the children have studied the lives of various people in the Bible, they have learned that a hero is a person who listens to God, trusts God and obeys God. God is looking for people today who are willing to listen, trust and obey. Each believer in Jesus Christ is called to follow the example of the men and women who exhibited these characteristics of what it means to be a hero of the faith. The Holy Spirit equips us and God uses us in the kingdom of God to impact lives in Jesus' name.

Possible activities and class plan

Activity	Materials	Time
My GROW adventure	GROW Adventure w/God materials	5 minutes
Opening prayer	Candle	1 minute
Bible Reading	Bible	5 minutes
Activity	Activity sheets	10 minutes
Bible exploration	See instructions	10 minutes
Game		10 minutes
Bible verse	See instructions	10 minutes
My GROW adventure	Review	5 minutes
Closing prayer	Candle	1 minute

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Instructions

My GROW Adventure with God Weekly Review: As children enter take time to have them reflect on their adventure with God booklets and either discuss or use art materials to express their journey during the past week. You may wish to add any art work, written poems, prayers or songs to a GROW wall in the room. You can find my GROW Adventure with God materials on the Covchurch.org website in the same place as the Adventures with God sessions.

Opening Prayer: Gather children around a candle. Light the candle and explain that we are entering into a special time with God. Encourage the children to hold their hands out in front of them palms up as a sign they are ready to receive what God has for them today.

Prayer Example: Lord God, thank you for making us, for loving us, for forgiving us, and guiding us. We know you are here with us right now. As we enter into your word, the Bible, help us draw close to you, to understand and to listen to what you have to say to us. Amen (For safety sake, you may wish to extinguish the candle after the prayer.)

Bible Reading: Explain that as we read the Bible we do so first to spend time with God. Children can remain with hands out-stretched, palms up to receive the word as it's being read. Alternatively they can be invited to draw what they hear. Read the biblical reference for the day (Hebrews 11:17-34) two times and ask children to respond.

Question examples: What did you notice in this passage? How does it make you feel? Was there anything you would ask God about that you didn't understand or was confusing? Is God saying anything to you through the story?

Activity: Choose from one of the activities found in the following pages or offer a couple options depending on the time. Make the necessary copies and allow them the appropriate amount of time to work.

Bible exploration: With your Bibles open to Hebrews 11, ask them to identify some of the names of the heroes that you've studied this trimester. Write the names on the board or on a big piece of paper. Then talk about what are the three characteristics of a true hero that we in the Bible:

1. True heroes listen to God's voice
2. True heroes trust in God
3. True heroes obey God and help others

Talk about the different ways that God communicated with the heroes in the stories you studied together (ex. Moses, Rahab, Esther, Samson, etc.) Then talk about how they trusted

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in God and obeyed God. Make a graphic that represents the heroes that you studied and how they exhibited these characteristics.

Olympic game: “Listen, trust and obey.” You can find the instructions in the following pages.

Bible verse: For this activity, have art supplies available. Either in teams or individually have the children make an illustration of the Bible memory verse, Hebrews 12:1. Or if they prefer, they can write a poem or a song.

Today's GROW Adventure with God Review:

G: God's Word: What is the story? (Give children an opportunity to express their understanding of the story).

R: Relationships: Is there anything in today's Bible story that shows us how we should or shouldn't share God's love with others? (Remind children that sometimes God uses the stories of the Bible to show us how we shouldn't act toward God or others and give them a chance to consider how we might show God's love instead).

O: Outward Action: Is there anything in the Bible story that shows us how we should help or serve God or others? (Explore concrete ways the children could live this out in the coming week).

W: Worship: Is there anything in the Bible story that shows us how we should accept God's love for us and others? Ask: How do you feel about God? How would you like to respond to God? What would you like to say to God?

Closing Prayer: Gather children around the candle again. As you light the candle explain that the flame is something that is present in the light and the darkness. In the same way, it reminds us that God is always with us. Is there anything anyone wishes to say to God? After children have responded, close the prayer time.

Prayer Example: Lord God, we thank you that you are always with us, and always love us. It's good to be with you. Thank you for what we have learned today. Thank you for being with us and for teaching us through the Bible. Help us to remember what you have taught us today and to live it out when we leave. Amen.

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ACTIVITY SHEET

THREE CHARACTERISTICS

Fill in the missing words below, using the words provided

LISTENED

TRUST VOICE

OBEYED

GOD

HELPED

1. The true heroes _____ to the _____ of God.
2. The true heroes chose to _____ in _____.
3. The true heroes _____ God and
_____ others.



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ACTIVITY 2

TRUE HEROES OF THE FAITH

Match the names to the correct description

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| ___ Caleb y Joshua | a. a left-handed judge that freed the people of Israel from the oppression of Moab. |
| ___ Esau | b. a queen who risked her life to save the Jewish people |
| ___ Deborah | c. a man known for his phenomenal physical strength given to him by God. |
| ___ Moses | d. a leader who God used to free the Israelites from Egypt. |
| ___ Abel | e. a prophet and a judge who went with her people into battle. |
| ___ Ehud | f. a mother who risked her life to save her son. |
| ___ Jochabed | g. a pagan woman who believed in God and helped the spies. |
| ___ Samson | h. spies that went to see the promised land. |
| ___ Esther | i. a brother who gave a sacrifice that pleased God. |
| ___ Rahab | j. a brother who forgave his brother who wronged him. |

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GAME

LISTEN, TRUST, AND OBEY

Instructions: In three bags or baskets, place the following questions related to the heroes you've studied. Divide the class into groups, depending on the number of children. Each group will choose which basket they want to choose the question from. They can choose any of the baskets on any of their turns. Some questions are provided, but you can determine the rest of the questions.

Bag #1: Listen:

Who heard the voice of God in the burning bush? (MOSES)
Who heard the voice of...
Who heard the voice of...
Who heard the voice of...
Who heard the voice of...
Who heard the voice of...

Bag #2: Trust:

Who trusted that God would give them victory over Sisera? (DEBORAH)
Who trusted that God would take care of her son in the river? (JOCHABED)
Who trusted that God...
Who trusted that God...
Who trusted that God...
Who trusted that God...

Bag #3: Obey:

Who obeyed God and gave an acceptable sacrifice? (ABEL)
Who obeyed God and forgave his brother? (ESAU)
Who obeyed God and...
Who obeyed God and...
Who obeyed God and...