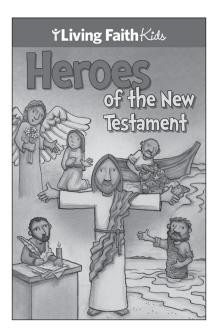
YLiving FaithKids



Heroes of the New Testament Teaching Plan

Teaching Tips

Ahead of introducing *Heroes of the New Testament* to the children, take time to familiarize yourself with the contents. Review this handout and how it correlates to the children's resource.

The resource is designed for children to interact with. Have the children follow along as you read aloud, and engage them in hands-on interaction with the resource, as suggested in the teaching steps below.

Background

The 27 books of the New Testament reveal how Jesus Christ is the fulfillment of God's plan for our salvation. It contains the true accounts of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. Luke continues the salvation story in the Acts of the Apostles, describing how the early Church grew under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The 21 letters, or epistles, were written to encourage Christian communities in the faith. The last book of the Bible, Revelation, uses symbolic and allegorical language to describe visions revealing Jesus Christ.

Children can discover the many ways Jesus loves, heals, forgives, calls, sends and saves by meeting the New Testament people whose lives he has transformed. Help young learners connect their feelings, experiences and prayers to those of Mary, Joseph, Peter, Paul, John the Baptist, and others and you will help them see that heroes don't have to be famous. They need only trust in Jesus' love, and share it as Jesus does.

YLiving FaithKids

Opening Prayer

Begin your lessons with prayer. Use the following or modify it each time you pray it with the group.

Risen Jesus, help us see you everywhere, in the people of the Bible and in everyone we meet. Amen.

Teaching Steps

Page(s)		*I ining Faith // 1
COVER	 Direct the children to look at the cover of their booklets. Ask, What does it mean to be a hero? (Accept and affirm all answers.) Say, Some of the heroes we will learn about here might surprise you. In fact, even the people who knew them might have been surprised to know that we consider them heroes today. Discuss the art. Ask, Who is at the center of the pictures? Invite the children to use the clues in each picture to identify the other people pictured. (Mary with angel, Peter with fishing net, John the Baptist in water, and a gospel writer (or possibly Paul) with pen and paper.) 	YLiving FaithKidk Heroes of the New Testament

Did you know that you are a hero? Yes, you. You're a hero because that's how God made you. God created you in his own image. God is good. God Is holy. God is bwo. God reated you to be all these things. Whenever you do something that is good, holy or lowing, you're living the heroic life God wants for you

Wondering how you can do all that? Actually, that's a good thing to think abo g about the greatest of all herces. Jesus, Jesus was the adventure God has planned for us. Jesus show ith all of our hearts, minds and souls. He showed us

with all of our nearly, minds and solus, He is we love ourselves. Jesus loved God and us is life so that we could have life forever with (Father asked him to. He said, "No one has gr one's life for one's friends" (John 15:13).

ably won't ask you to give up your life. kyou to be a hero in your own way by s. You can also learn about the people followed Jesus—they were some heroses! We read about them in the t of the Bible. A few of their incredible

Jesus is the true superherc But he doesn't wear a costume or mask. Jesus is the Son God. He is God, but he is a human

2	•	Read aloud the head and first paragraph. Ask, <i>What are some heroic things God wants all of us to do?</i> Point out that heroic actions aren't always big or dramatic.
	•	Read the second paragraph as the children follow along. Ask, <i>What were some of the things Jesus showed us?</i> (How to live the adventure God has planned, how to love God and love others as we love ourselves) Ask, <i>How did</i> <i>Jesus show his love for God and for us?</i> (By giving up his life so that we could have life forever with God)
	•	Review. Explain that these stories come from the New Testament. If needed, provide a quick review of the Bible. (Refer to <i>Living Faith Kids: Learning About the Bible</i> for more.)
	•	Extend the lesson. After reading the text in the yellow box, explain that this is a mystery of our faith, which means that we can't fully comprehend it, but we have faith that with God, anything is possible. <i>Ask, What are your favorite stories from Jesus' life?</i>

3	•	Invite the children to look at the picture as you read aloud the first sentence. Ask, Do you know anyone wh is fourteen? How many years will it be before you are fourteen?	O After Jesus, the greatest hero in the whole world is a fourteen-year-old girl. Thisr sight. May want much defer than you when God adeed her to take on the heroic job of being jears. God Nor before you start with her response to God. Nor before you start with her response to		
	•	Read about Mary as the children follow along. Ask, How did Mary feel when the angel visited her? (You may wish to read Luke 1:26-38 together.) Ask, What did Mary's faith and trust give her the power to do? (Say yes to God) Point out the word "fiat" and have the children underline it. Ask, How can we say yes to God in our own lives? Accept and affirm all answers.			
	•	Extend the lesson. After reading the text in the yellow box, invite the children to brainstorm and make a list things God has done or given that they can rejoice in. Compose a prayer of thanksgiving together.	of		
4–15	For each page from 4 through 15, follow these steps:				
	•	Announce the name of the hero, or invite one of the children to do so.	The sequence of the sequence o		
	•	Draw attention to the illustration. Ask if the children can tell what is happening and how the people in the picture might be feeling.	<text><text><text><text><text><text><text></text></text></text></text></text></text></text>		
	•	Vary each reading experience. You might read the story as children follow along in their booklets, select a child to read a paragraph, or invite children to read together in pairs.	 Bern Marken and Bern der B		
	•	Pause frequently to ask review and clarifying questions such as, <i>What did Joseph do before he</i> <i>went to sleep? Who stayed with Jesus at the cross?</i> <i>What does the Good Thief show us about Jesus?</i>	<section-header><image/><image/><text><text></text></text></section-header>		
	•	Reflect. After reading each story, have the children choose one word or statement in the text that stood out to them and underline it. Say, <i>Spend a few moments thinking and praying about why you chose this word or phrase.</i> Invite them to share the word they chose and why.	<text><text><text><text><text><text></text></text></text></text></text></text>		
	•	Invite. After each story, ask 1-2 discussion questions that relate to children's experiences, for example: <i>Have you ever felt the same way as the hero, or done something similar? What surprised you about this hero? What do you think this hero learned? How do you think Jesus might be calling you in a similar way?</i>	<section-header><section-header><text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text></text></text></text></text></text></text></text></text></text></text></text></text></text></text></text></section-header></section-header>		
	•	Look deeper. Refer to the back cover (page 16) to find corresponding New Testament passages. If you have access to Bibles, help the children find the passages and read them together.	Harry Maplahas takes And function the Andready takes also where the final final due dramatic class these. We also also also also and entry page in the second takes are used as also		

YLiving FaithKids

4–15	 Extend the lesson. After reading the text in the yellow box, help the children apply the story to their lives. For example, you might investigate reconciliation at your parish (page 6), share a story of your own to encourage sharing of ideas (page 7), role play different ways people share news (page 8), or plan a feast day celebration to honor a saint (page 10). Lead a guided meditation. (Optional) Choose a story from the booklet and invite the children to close their eyes as you describe 	<text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text></text></text></text></text></text></text></text></text></text></text>
	it. Invite them to use their imaginations to picture the scene and place themselves there. Say, <i>What does Jesus say to you? What do you</i> <i>say to Jesus?</i> Close with the Sign of the Cross.	Supervised for starty off of Cacuch, but is the start of
	• Stickers. After completing each page, have the children turn to the sticker insert and find the corresponding sticker to place on the page.	<text><text><text><text><text><text><text></text></text></text></text></text></text></text>
	• Complete the activities. If needed, help the children complete the activities on pages 9 and 15.	THE Earth Classical communities. Records the radia grave grave device the intervent of exames in the second secon

Closing Prayer

Lead the children in prayer. Close with "Amen. Alleluia."

Loving God, you chose people to be heroes in big and small ways. Help us live the heroic life you want for us, by trusting you as they did, and by loving as you love.



Heroes of the New Testament was written by Connie Clark and corresponding Teaching Pages developed by Connie Clark, David Dziena, and Lindsay Taylor. Illustrations by Jim Burrows. Images by Shutterstock. Design by Jamie Wyatt. © 2020, 2018 Creative Communications for the Parish, a Division of Bayard, Inc., 1564 Fencorp Drive, Fenton, MO 63026, 800-325-9414. www.creativecommunications.com. All rights reserved. Printed in the USA.

