

We All Need Heroes

Good sir? I have a message for you today, young man. Young lady? I hope that you have a moment to hear me. Can you afford a few minutes to hear this short message from the heart?

I'd like to speak to you for just a moment about heroes. Yes, heroes. You see, I believe we should all have them. Certainly we all need them.

Are you thinking of the Lord Jesus? You should. He is, above all, our principal hero. No one will ever replace Him. But when I speak of this earth, heroes are the people who we've admired because of their courage or because of their nobility of purpose. We admire them because they are the selfless ones. They think of the good of others ahead of any selfish purpose. They stand up when others won't. They resist when others give in. They've kept their keen sense of right from wrong, and every one of them has stood the test of time. Our heroes have stayed faithful to the very end.

Please don't misunderstand me. I should explain something. A hero isn't always the picture of perfection.

You'll understand what I'm telling you if you'll allow me to refer you to the eleventh chapter of Hebrews. In that passage, the writer mentions sixteen people by name, all who were heroes in their own right. They were imperfect and flawed, but please notice that every one of them was mentioned for their great faith.

Faith. Faith is the principle virtue by which they all pleased God. It's the virtue that will be acknowledged when each of God's servants enters into the joy of the Lord. Young man. Young lady. Your heroes should have the very same quality.

Think of faithfulness whenever you see the old grey-headed saint who has lived decades serving God without fail. As I speak to you now, I am in awe of their steadiness and patience. They cannot be shaken. They know whom they've believed. They're persuaded and committed. They are saints that have lived for God for thirty, forty, even sixty years. Many have attended the same church, rarely missing service. They are the steadfast, the unshaken, the unmovable, yet these folks are still tender and sensitive to God.

Young man, do you see that elderly man in the back pew who never misses a service? Take note of that man. Little sister, do you see the elderly woman who gets there early, so she can pray for her pastor, for her church family, and for that evening's church service? Take careful note of her.

These are our very own local heroes. We need them. Every church ought to have them. They are the unsung heroes. The ones who aren't in the spotlight. The ones who work behind the scenes and are happy to be a blessing to God and their local church.

Do you think I'm finished? Almost. But before you go, I have one more thing to mention. It's very important for you to hear what I'm about to say before you rush off to your next appointment.

Remember when I said that we *all* need heroes? I really meant what I said. Every one of us needs heroes. Even those of us who have been living for God for decades.

Young man, every day that you successfully live for God, your elders rejoice. Young lady, every day that you keep walking with God, there is an appreciation that builds in our hearts. To put it plainly, your elders need you to succeed. Do you think that any one of us wants to see our own history as a wasteland of destruction? No! We want you to win!

Every time you defeat the enemy you actually become our champions. You! When you defeat the giant and when you win that battle, there is a faithful group of elders who are full of admiration over how you're conducting your life. It's evident to us all that you are growing in wisdom and grace. Stay humble, stay submitted, and always give God the glory. Let Him do the promoting and watch what God can do through you.

When you defeat your ten-thousands, only the selfish would be foolish enough to become jealous. Only the spirit of Saul would become envious of the exploits that are within your reach. Are there greater works in store for you? We hope and we pray. And we will continue to rejoice when you accomplish them. That is God's design. Jesus promised that there would be greater works. He has brought you this far by grace. By faith, you'll make it the rest of the way. We can all make it together.

It's time to go now. I asked you for a moment, and I thank you for taking the time to listen. But before you go, please promise to remember—we all need heroes.

L. Montano

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