

Godly Youth

Young in Age, Strong in Heart

Heroes

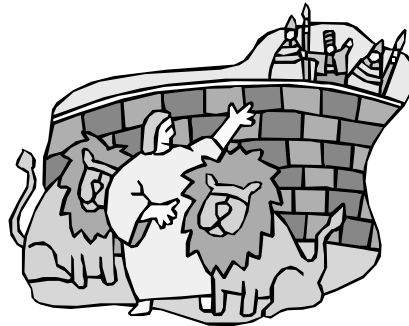
Who are your heroes? We all probably have different heroes, people whom we respect for great things they have done or have made an important difference in our lives. For example, our parents should be heroes for all they do and their love for us.

People interested in sports often have heroes in their favorite sport who perform at a level higher than everyone else. Basketball players may like Michael Jordan because of his great abilities.

People interested in music may respect a person who writes or performs music in a way they would like to do one day.

Heroes are examples for us to follow and teachers from whom we can learn. There

is nothing wrong with wanting to play sports or perform music like our heroes, but we must realize that they may do things in their personal lives that are not good.



We should have spiritual heroes to look up to. I think of the apostle Paul's great courage in teaching the gospel to people that sometimes hurt him. He was in many dangers while teaching the gospel but he continued to preach, 2 Corinthians 11:22-28.

We can also think of

Daniel and his friends who were young people who worshipped God though they were in a land where people worshipped idols and sometimes wanted them to disobey God.

I also think of David's thirty mighty men in 2 Samuel 23:8-29. One man killed eight hundred men of the enemy's army at one time. Another kept fighting the mighty Philistines alone when other people in the army ran away. Another man went down against a mighty Egyptian and took the Egyptian's spear from him and killed him. These men defended God's people because they trusted in God.

Of course, our greatest hero should be Jesus who loved us and died for us. Read about His life and do what he did.

What Can Young People Do? -Obey Your Parents

As written above, our parents should be our heroes. They try hard to help us learn to do good and to love the Lord. They give up things they want to do to take care of us and teach us. Be sure to thank them for all they do.

One way you can thank them is by obeying them. God

commands children to obey their parents:

"Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right." Ephesians 6:1

By obeying your parents you are also obeying God. When you disobey your parents, you are disobeying God.

When you obey your parents

you show other children they way God wants them to live. Some children do not show respect to their parents and will cause their parents to be sad. Obedient children make their parents happy. By obeying them, you show other people what great parents you have.

See what you can do!

Volume 1, Issue 6
October 2002

Inside this issue:

<i>Meet The Prophets Hosea</i>	2
<i>What Would You Do? Lying</i>	2
<i>Who Am I?</i>	2
<i>Code Breaker</i>	3
<i>Memory Verse John 20:31</i>	3
<i>Taking Notes During Sermons</i>	4

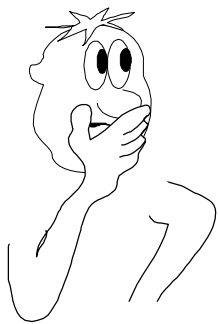
"[They] searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so."

Acts 17:11



Lessons from Hosea

- God wants people who are sinning to come back to Him so He can forgive them.
- God wants His people to keep His laws and serve Him because they love Him.
- Sometimes people will not serve God even when they are punished for disobeying.



“Know what you will do in a situation before that situation arises.”

Meeting the Prophets: Hosea

Hosea was a prophet of God during a time when the people of God in Judah were not being faithful to the Law.

God told Hosea to go marry a woman who would not love him like she should. God did this to show the people of Israel that though they were His people, they did not love Him like they should. When they served idols and did not obey God’s law, they were not showing true love for Him.

Through Hosea, God told the people that He would not be their God and they would not be His people if they did not repent. He also said that He would allow an enemy to come and defeat them in battle and take them to live in another land. God wanted his people to serve Him and He would take care of them and make sure they had food, water, and places to live. But the people loved their idols and would not

turn to God even when their food and water became hard to find. Can you imagine not having much food or water but still not serving God who would give plenty of food and water?

Though the people had not loved God like they should, God was willing to take them back if they would repent. To repent means to change your mind so that instead of disobeying God, you will obey God. God would forgive their sins if they would turn to Him.

Hosea begged the people to turn back to God. He told them that the Lord had brought suffering on them for sin but He would make things better if they would return. But, he said, they were not very faithful. They did not have a strong love for God.

Hosea said that God wrote great things in His law but the people thought they were

strange things. They did not learn the law of God like they should and so they did not understand the things God wrote to help them be good people.

Hosea also said that God would not accept the animal sacrifices they people were offering. They thought that even if they were not obeying all of the law, if they made sacrifices like the law commanded, that God would accept it. But God did not want them to just keep part of the law, He wanted them to do all that He commanded. We must make sure that we do not think that just because we do something religious, like going to worship services, that we can use bad language, or lie, or do other things God does not want us to do. God wants us to serve Him with our hearts, because He loves us. He also wants us to keep His law because it is good for us.

What Would You Do?

Fred’s mother and father were getting ready to go to dinner. His big sister was home and would be watching him. Before they left, Fred’s parents told him to make up his bed and clean his clothes off of the floor before bedtime. After they left, Fred started playing his new Playstation game and lost track of time.

After the dinner, Fred’s mother called on the phone to tell him good night. She asked him if he cleaned his room. If he said yes he would not get in trouble but would be lying. He thought, “I can clean it up really quick before they come home.”

What do you think he should do?

Who Am I?

1. I was a chief tax collector.
2. Jesus came to my house to eat and I told him I would give half of my things to the poor.
3. Some people did not like it that Jesus came to eat with me.
4. I was very short and had to climb a tree to see Jesus.

Do you know who I am? (Answer below)

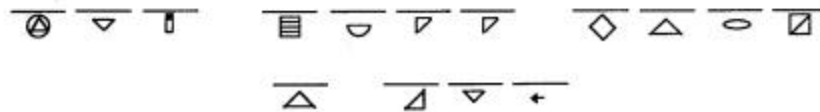
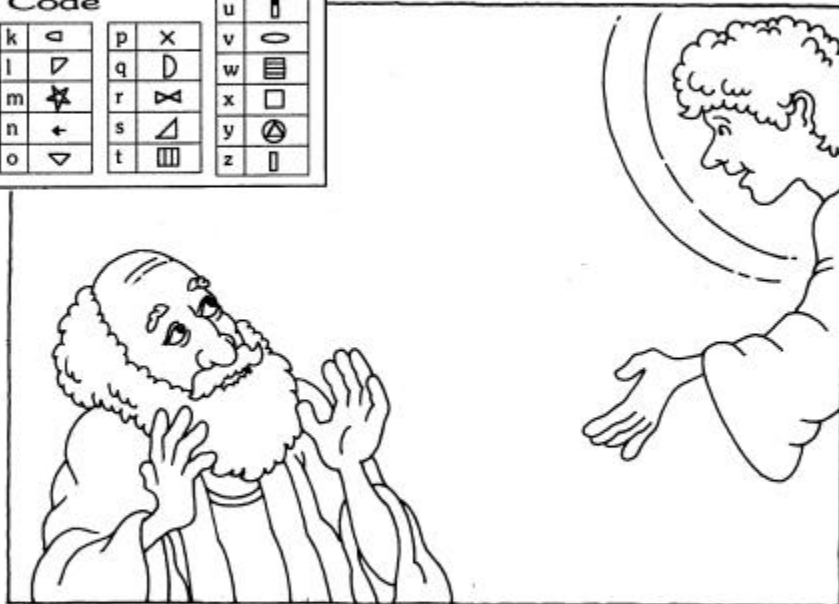
I am Zacchaeus!

A Special Birth Announcement

Break the secret code to find out what the angel said.

Secret Code			
a	△	f	⊖
b	+	g	▬
c	⊥	h	◇
d	○	i	∩
e	⊠	j	*
k	◁	m	☆
l	▽	n	←
o	▽	p	x
q	D	r	⊗
s	△	t	▬
u	⊥	v	○
w	▬	x	□
y	⊗	z	⊥

Zechariah and Elizabeth didn't have any children and now they thought they were too old. But one day when Zechariah was in the temple an angel gave him a special message.



From Bible Fun by Baker Book House. Copyright 2000 Baker Book House Company

Memory Verse: Verse: John 20:31

“but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.”

John said that Jesus did many things that were not written in his book. In fact, in John 21:25 he writes:

“And there are also many other things that Jesus did, which if they were written one by one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.”

Think about this the next time you go into a large library. Look at all of the books and think, even all of

these books could not contain everything that could be written about Jesus. There was so much to tell but the gospel writers had to choose just a few stories to save for us.

The stories the apostles wrote are things that can help us learn how Jesus lived and teach us by His example. When we study Jesus, we learn how we should act and talk so that we can please God.

The main reason that John wrote these things was to help people know Jesus so they could believe in Him and obey Him and have eternal life in heaven.

The miracles of Jesus that prove that God was with Him. The words of Jesus that prove that He was speaking the message of God. The people who heard Jesus said, “No man spoke like this man.” We can read and know that Jesus is God’s Son and obey Him.



Taking Notes During Sermons

I really am happy when I see young people listening to me when I preach. I know that sometimes things can be hard to understand, but I am happy that they are trying to listen.

When I am listening to someone else preach, I always take notes. I want to remember what the preacher said so I can learn from it later. We often forget what we hear if we do not write it down. How can you take notes?

Copy Words from the Screen

The preacher will often put important thoughts on a screen behind him. You can copy these thoughts down and remember the main things that he was talking about. Sometimes he may change them quickly. Do not worry, just do your best and start copying down the thoughts on the next screen. Even if you get a little bit from every screen, you will have words that might help you remember the lesson.

Copy Down Bible Verses

When the preacher mentions a Bible verse, copy it down in your notebook and then turn to it in the Bible. If he mentions a lot of verses, just do your best to write down as many of the

verses as you can remember. You can always look up the Bible verses at home if you want to learn more about the lesson.

Copy Down Your Thoughts

Sometimes when I am listening to a sermon, I will hear something that will make me think of how I can serve God better. I will also write those things down. You can write down ideas you get from the sermon and ways that you can do what the Bible says you should do. For example, if the preacher is talking about loving one another, you might write down, "I need to be kind to my brother and sister" even though the preacher did not talk about how to treat your family.

Keep Listening

As I said before, sometimes you may not understand exactly what the preacher is saying all the time. But, most of the time you will be able to understand and everything you learn will help you learn more later. So keep listening and as you grow, you will know more and more about the Bible and what God wants you to do.

I hope you enjoyed this issue of *Godly Youth*. I enjoy making it for you and I hope you enjoy reading it. If you have ideas for articles or questions you want to ask, you can email me at rhodes.davis@comcast.net

Return mail to:

A SPECIAL NEWSLETTER
JUST FOR YOU!
