

SUPER HEROES **of the** **Bible**™

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Kindergarten - 5th Grade

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SUPER HEROES of the Bible

The Willing Hearts Who Changed the Course of History

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Teacher Introduction

Read Hebrews Ch. 11 - Ch. 12:3

The willing hearts of those who served God long ago and today, were and still are made possible by faith in God. In Hebrews 1:1 it says: "In the past God spoke to his people through prophets. But today God speaks to us through his only SON, Jesus!" We have an advantage over the willing hearts of the past because we are able to have the POWER of God living in our lives. We are "Powered Up" by the dynamite* power of the Holy Spirit. He gives us the FAITH to believe and trust in God, the COURAGE to follow him, and the willing hearts to OBEY him..."POWER UP!"

The inspiration for Super Heroes of the Bible comes from Hebrews Chapter 11, sometimes referred to as the Hall of Fame chapter. I have chosen men and women, boys and girls, the famous and the not-so-famous, to use as examples of how God uses people with willing hearts to change the course of history. I hope these lessons will inspire the children you teach to have willing hearts to serve our Supreme Super Savior, Jesus Christ.

Many Blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sarah A. Keith".

Sarah A. Keith

* The Greek word for dynamite is "dunamis" and is translated as "power" in the English translation. In other words, the same dynamite power that raised Jesus from the dead is also available to all who receive Jesus as their Savior. The Holy Spirit gives all believers dynamite power to trust and follow God and the ability to fight against powers of darkness. (See Ephesians 1:19-20 and Ephesians 6:12.)

Song Time Suggestions

Theme Songs: "S" Is for Super Savior, Supernatural Grace (from the play, *What's So Amazing About Grace?* by Brentwood), and *Faith of Our Fathers*.

Additional Song Suggestions: *Father Abraham*, *Soldiers of Christ Arise*, *Trust and Obey*, *Onward Christian Soldiers*, *Joshua Fit the Battle*, *Beautiful Feet* by Sandi Patti.

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Class Introduction

“S” is for Super Savior!

(Sung to the tune of the *Rocket Power* cartoon theme song, refer to Youtube.com.)

Verse 1

We are God's kids on a mission.
Won't you join us?
Come and listen.

Chorus

(shout) POWER UP!
Jesus loves you.
(shout) POWER UP!
Jesus saved you.
(shout) POWER UP! POWER UP! POWER UP!

Verse 2

We are God's kids on a mission.
Faith and Courage,
and submission.

(Repeat chorus)

What is a super hero? (Listen for answers. i.e. comic book heroes, sports and real life heroes.) What are some characteristics of super heroes? What are they like? Can you name any Super Heroes? (Listen for answers.)

Super heroes are people of honor; they are courageous, or brave. They are people with integrity, having good reputations. People of honor know right from wrong and choose to do right. People think well of them and say good things about them. We respect them and hold them in high regard.

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Sometimes heroes are famous, and sometimes they aren't. But the one characteristic that makes super heroes different from other people is that they have willing hearts to do a special task to rescue others. They put other people before themselves, and sometimes endanger their own lives!

Have you ever heard the Bible stories of David and Goliath? Or Noah's Ark? Have you ever stopped to consider what would have happened if David the shepherd boy had said, "I'm too young to serve God. Ask someone else to be king." or "I'm too busy tending my sheep." or, "I'm way too small to defeat Goliath! He could kill me!"? All those excuses would be true, but what might have been the result? Well, Goliath and the Philistines might have defeated Israel, and God's people would have died.

What if Noah had said, "Rain? There's no such thing as that much rain that could flood the earth!* I can't build an ark to save my family, because if I do my friends and neighbors will make fun of me!" What would have happened if Noah said this? Well, maybe the entire human race would have been destroyed!

The truth is that God has a plan for all of his creation. If Noah or David hadn't obeyed God, he would most likely have used someone else to do these special tasks. But think of the miracles and the super hero experiences they would have missed out on by not having willing hearts to obey God! You see, God loves us and gives us the privilege to work with him to carry out his will! All it takes is a willing heart, ready to obey him!

Over the next several weeks, we are going to look at the lives of David and Noah, as well as some other men and women, and boys and girls, and some famous and not-so-famous people from the Bible, who had willing hearts to obey God. And by obeying him, they were used in miraculous and powerful ways to help change the course of history! During our lessons, I hope you will discover how God can also use *you* to change history and how you too can become a super hero for Jesus!

* Genesis 2:5-6 indicates that rain did not exist before the flood.

Theme Memory Verse "God has not given us a spirit of fear, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline" (2 Timothy 1:7 NIV).

Use the following motions to accompany the verse:

God: point towards Heaven,

Fear: put both hands to mouth and look afraid,

Power: clench fists and show your muscles,

Love: cross arms over chest,

Self-discipline: head held high, arms down to sides with feet spread apart, and chest proudly pushed out.

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Award Craft: Super Savior Power Scepters

Today we will make Super Savior Power Scepters. The "S" stands for "Super Savior," our Supreme Super Hero, "JESUS CHRIST." The "S" is surrounded by three words, **Faith**, **Courage**, and **Obedience**. As we study the super heroes of the Bible, we will learn of their faith (how they trusted or relied on God), their courage (their bravery), and their obedience (how they faithfully followed God's instructions). We will also discover how they helped to change the course of human history.

Bible Point

God's Word says that when you believe and trust in Jesus, he will give you power that is greater than dynamite to follow and obey him. In fact, the same dynamite power that raised Jesus from the dead is available to all who trust in Him! The dynamite power of the Holy Spirit can give you the Faith to believe in Jesus, the Courage to follow him, and the willing heart to Obey him (Ephesians 1:15-23).



Awards

When you come to class, you will have the opportunity to earn jewels to glue onto your *Super Savior Power Scepter*. (Teachers should decide their class goals. When children have earned a certain amount of jewels for their scepter, they receive a reward of your choosing. For example, you might allow children to earn a jewel for Bible verse memorization, attending class, and for bringing a friend.)

Directions and pattern included with purchase.

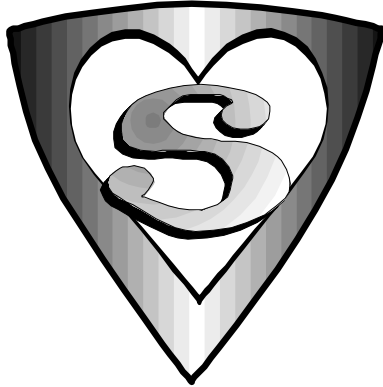
Discussion Questions

- 1) What are the three super hero characteristics we will study each week? (Faith, courage, obedience.)
- 2) How do we receive the power to have faith, courage and obedience? (God gives it to us)
- 3) What kind of power does God give us when we believe in Jesus? (Dynamite power.)
- 4) This dynamite power did something supernaturally special for Jesus. What is it? (Raised him from the dead.)

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Lesson 1: Adam to Noah (Genesis 1-9)



Song Time (See song suggestions in the introduction)

Enrichment Idea

(Begin by telling the story of the seven days of Creation and the Fall, see Genesis chapters 1-3. You can read portions directly from a Bible, a children's Bible, or paraphrase it in your own words. While you tell the story of Creation and the Fall, have the children draw the story onto banner paper using crayons or markers. Tell them to draw any part of the story as you tell it. They do not have to draw the entire story. Alternatively, you might choose separate groups of children to draw different days of creation.)

When God created the world, it was perfectly beautiful. There was no sickness or disease. There was no death or pain. God provided everything Adam and Eve could ever want. And God said that everything he had created was good! God gave Adam and Eve the choice to serve and obey him. He wanted them to obey him with willing hearts. But as we learned in the story about Creation, they disobeyed him—they sinned. They ate from the tree from which God told them not to eat. Adam and Eve now had a serious problem. Their close relationship with God was ruined. Because God is a Holy God, sin cannot be allowed in his presence. But God still loved Adam and Eve and had a plan to make it right. God clothed them with animal skins, which meant that an animal had to be killed to cover their bodies. This is the first time the Bible tells us about a sacrifice—an innocent animal was killed because of their sins. The Bible tells us God sent them out of the Garden. This may seem harsh, but it was really a good thing. Had God allowed them to stay in the Garden they might have eaten from the Tree of Life. Then they and all their children throughout all generations, including you and me, would have been sinful for all eternity and would never have been able to live with God in Heaven.

The story I've just told you is how sin entered the world. The rest of the Bible is about God's redemption; meaning his plan to save us from our sinful ways, and to make a way for us to be forgiven. This plan began when God showed Adam and Eve that their sin must be punished, and that the way to receive forgiveness, is through a sacrifice.

READ Genesis 6-7 from a child-friendly Bible, tell it in your own words, or use the following shortened version.

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Enrichment Idea: Noah the Boat Builder

(Read the following story. When children hear Noah's name, have them make a fist with one hand and "hammer" it three times into the palm of their other hand.)

After Adam and Eve disobeyed God, he sent them out of the Garden. The Bible tells us that Adam and Eve began having children, and their children had children, and their children had children, and so on, and so on until many, many people were living on the earth. Life outside the Garden was difficult. The people on earth had become very wicked; their thoughts were evil all the time. God wasn't happy with them. In fact, it broke his heart that he had created them. So the LORD said, "I will wipe all living creatures from the face of the earth--for I am sorry that I have made them."

But there was one man named **Noah** who God loved. **Noah** was a righteous man; **Noah** walked with God, which means he obeyed God. **Noah** had three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth. God said to **Noah**, "The people on earth are living very sinful lives. I am going to put an end to them. They have filled the earth with their wickedness. You can be sure, **Noah**, that I am going to destroy both them and the earth."

God told **Noah** to build a very big boat, an ark. It would be big enough to hold **Noah's** family and two of every kind of animal! He also told **Noah** to take extra animals that they would use for sacrifices. (Remember, sin must be punished, sacrifices must be made.) The Bible tells us that **Noah** did everything just as God commanded him. **Noah** was obedient to God. But the other people on earth continued to live without faith in God or obedience to him (see Matthew 24:37-39).

Finally, when the ark was built . . .

The rest of this enrichment idea is included with purchase.



Discussion

- 1) It took courage for Noah and his family to trust God. Do you think they still might have been afraid?
- 2) There were no rivers or oceans where Noah lived. Do you think the people there might have thought Noah was crazy to build an ark where it couldn't even float?
- 3) Do you think Noah wondered why God would have him build a boat?
- 4) Noah trusted God. If God said it, then he obeyed it. What can we learn from Noah's obedience?
- 5) How did Noah's obedience change the course of human history?

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Memory Verse

“By faith Noah, when warned about things not yet seen, in holy fear built an ark to save his family” (Hebrews 11:7 NIV).

Pray Dear Jesus, thank you for Noah’s willing heart to have faith in you and the courage to obey you. Help us to have the faith to follow you and the courage to obey you too. Amen.

Game: Willing Hearts

Included with book purchase.



Lesson Review

(To be used when dividing the lesson into two sessions)

Song Time

Have children retell the story in their own words.

Review Memory Verses: Hebrews 11:7.

Awards: Children receive jewels to decorate their Power Scepters.

Yummy Devotion: Edible Ark

Included with book purchase.

Yummy Devotion: Rainbow Cookies

Included with book purchase.

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