

X-RAY VISION

Heroes, Part 1

January 9th, 2011

As a culture we are enamored with heroes

What is a hero? 2 key elements

1. A hero is someone who has clarity
2. A hero has the irresistible urge to act

A hero refuses to let the "fog" of rationality, pragmatism, etc prevent him/her from acting

Heroes aren't necessarily courageous people

Heroes don't think they will change the world; all they know is their action is required to change their world

Heroes know a sacrifice has to be made, but it seems minimal compared to the consequences of what might happen if someone doesn't do something

Some of the most heroic acts you never hear about

This is important to us because in our lives there will be defining moments in which we see what needs to be done and are compelled to act or we hesitate

The longer we hesitate, the greater the chance we won't act

These defining moments in which we clearly see what needs to be done and are challenged to act will occur at every stage of our lives

In every environment you are in – school, work, family – there is a need for a hero, the need for clarity and action

1 Samuel 17:32,33 (NIV) "David said to Saul, 'Let no one lose heart on account of this Philistine; your servant will go and fight him.' Saul replied, 'You are not able to go out against this Philistine and fight him; you are only a boy, and he has been a fighting man from his youth.'"

1 Samuel 17:47 (NIV) "All those gathered here will know that it is not by sword or spear that the Lord saves; for the battle is the Lord's, and he will give all of you into our hands."

Everyday you make decisions, you are writing a paragraph in a chapter of your life

What story do you want to tell? Live the way you want to tell the story

Will the day come when you'd give all your days to go back and relive a decision, a particular paragraph and chapter in your life?

Matthew 27:3-5 (NIV) "When Judas, who had betrayed him, saw that Jesus was condemned, he was seized with remorse and returned the thirty silver coins to the chief priests and the elders. 'I have sinned,' he said, 'for I have betrayed innocent blood.' 'What is that to us?' they replied. 'That's your responsibility.' So Judas threw the money into the temple and left. Then he went away and hanged himself."

You need to learn to be a hero, not just for the sake of the people around you, but for your own sake

You will always tell your story. It's a story that needs to be told, but a story you need to be proud to hear

Proverbs 11:3 (NIV) "The integrity of the upright guides them, but the unfaithful are destroyed by their duplicity."

Challenge: Will you be a hero - at home, work, in your relationships, for your parents, for your spouse, for your children?

To be a hero you must maintain clarity and act on what you see

My Next Step Today Is...

- In my world am asking God to give me clarity to see what needs to happen & the courage to act
- This week I will think about what "story" I want my life to tell and begin to make the necessary changes so that story is told
- I will participate in a small group beginning next week
- I will memorize Proverbs 11:3