

**“Jesus Christ – The Disciple’s Hero”**

*John 7: 53-8: 11; Hebrew's 12: 1-2*

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**What is a disciple?** A disciple is a follower of a teacher, a leader, or an inspiring person.

**What is the definition of a hero?** A hero is a person who is admired because of noble character, courage and the acts they have done.

**Jesus is the disciple's hero because of Grace.** In this Bible story of the woman caught in adultery, Jesus points the scribes and Pharisees in the direction of Grace. Jesus was teaching that all have sinned – not merely the woman caught in adultery. If we have not sinned we can cast the first stone. In other words, only God (who is without sin) can condemn to death. And Jesus who is divine could condemn her to death, chose not to condemn her, but teach her in love to stay away from sin. That is Grace. When we know we are all sinners, we can accept Jesus’ words for ourselves and receive it in joy and thanksgiving - knowing we are not condemned regardless what we have done to deserve condemnation and punishment. Jesus Christ as our hero motivates and inspires us to follow more closely and live in a way which brings joy and healing to the world.

**Jesus is our hero because of love.** Don't just generally talk about 'God' states theologian and author Jurgen Moltmann. Speak about Jesus Christ who demonstrated in his life and death that his total nature is love. Some people mistakenly think that life is about themselves and it is enough that faith is based more on the good works people do as humans rather than what God has done. People of God, we cannot earn our way to heaven by following the law and doing good works - because we can't! What God has done in love through Jesus is the true faith – faith based on Grace and not on self-righteousness. Life is not about us and what we want. Our rights do not supersede everyone else’s rights. Jesus is our hero because in love he frees us from focusing on ourselves and our striving to fit in and be successful. In his love, we can be confident that we matter to God and relax in the knowledge that we are enough. Jesus is our hero.

**Jesus is our hero because He is the winner.** As Christ’s disciples, we share in that victory. If Christ is love and he has won the biggest victory in the history of humankind, and is therefore all powerful, why is there so much suffering in the world? To answer this question we might ask, who is God? However, we also need to ask “Where is God”. The answer I offer for this second question is that Christ ‘took our place’ by suffering on the cruel cross, and won the final victory over death when he rose from the dead. Though terrible suffering occurs every day in the world, it does not have the final word! Because of Jesus Christ we live in hope.

***“Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely,<sup>[a]</sup> and let us run with perseverance the race***

*that is set before us, <sup>2</sup> looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of <sup>d</sup>[b](#) the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.” Hebrews 12: 1-2*

Is Jesus your hero in daily life?