

# FAITH HEROES

## Learning outcomes

Having earned this badge members will:

- be able to relate some facts about several Christian heroes;
- be able to identify at least one key characteristic from the life of the hero;
- reflect on the self-giving of at least one hero and consider how God used or impacted the life of the hero;
- begin to reflect on their own life's purpose.

## Badge Requirements

1. Research and present the life of one Christian hero.
2. Compare key characteristics of several Christian heroes.
3. Compare how God used or impacted the life of several Christian heroes.
4. Relate how the life of one Christian hero impacted your life.





# Teaching ideas

It is suggested that you allow one or two weeks for each member to research a Christian hero and prepare a presentation on that person's life. Then each member presents his/her presentation to the group over the following few weeks. These presentations could take the place of devotions. Alternatively, the group could present their presentations over one or two parades.

In researching and presenting the life of a Christian hero, members may work individually, in pairs or small groups. At least two lives will need to be presented in order to complete the comparison work of **Badge Requirements 2 and 3**.



## 1. Research and present the life of one Christian hero.

Provide a list of Christian heroes for members to choose from – a suggested list is included below. Whilst many of the following people have died they provide modern examples of Christian faith in contrast to those in the **Bible heroes** badge.

Provide information, or access to information, for members to research, e.g. books, films, the Internet, library. There is a series of inexpensive books entitled 'Christian Heroes: Then and Now' that might be useful (available at Christian bookshops).

Corrie Ten Boom	Brother Andrew	Billy Graham
Gladys Aylward	David Wilkinson	William Wilberforce
David Livingstone	Charles Wesley	John Wesley
Hudson Taylor	C.S. Lewis	Martin Luther
Martin Luther King	Mother Teresa	Florence Nightingale
Fanny Crosby	Nicky Cruz	Major Don Woodland
Major Joyce Harmer	Pope John Paul II	
Betty Greene (WWII pilot)		
Robert Pierce (founder of World Vision)		

The following topics are given as a guide for members to consider when researching their Christian hero. Not all topics will apply to every hero.

**Handout 1** could be distributed to assist members in their research.

- The hero's name
- Date and place of birth
- Country he/she grew up in
- How he/she came to Christian faith
- What their work or mission did for God, i.e. what God called him/her to do, what it was and what they did
- Their initial reaction to God's call
- Skills or abilities they felt they had or lacked for God's work
- Obstacles, disabilities or fear he/she had
- Outstanding personal characteristics or traits
- Any personal reflection on the hero's work

The presentation can take any form the member/s choose, e.g. poster, PowerPoint, scrapbook, lecture, song, poem, project book, dramatic presentation of the hero's life.

# Teaching ideas



## 2. Compare key characteristics of several Christian heroes.

Create a chart or poster listing the names of several Christian heroes (those presented in **Badge Requirement 1** could be used) and the main characteristics they possess/ed. Discuss the hero's characteristics that members identified in their presentations. Consider similarities and differences and how these benefited or hindered the hero's work.



## 3. Compare how God used or impacted the life of several Christian heroes.

Create a chart or poster listing the work or mission of several Christian heroes (those presented in **Badge Requirement 1** could be used). Or when all members have presented their Christian hero, consider similarities and differences between their work and the part God played in their lives and work.



## 4. Relate how the life of one Christian hero impacted your life.

This could be completed in several ways:

- as part of the member's presentation;
- a private reflection following all of the presentations and shared with either the group, in pairs or with a leader;
- spoken or written.

### Film resources

The following films may be used to supplement members' research but be aware that films are not always totally accurate. You may also choose to show one of the films as an extra activity.

*The Hiding Place* - Corrie Ten Boom

*The Inn of the Sixth Happiness* - Gladys Aylward

*The Cross and the Switchblade* - David Wilkinson and Nicky Cruz

*Amazing Grace* (2007) - William Wilberforce

*Stanley and Livingstone* (1939) - David Livingstone

*Wesley* (to be released 2008) - Charles Wesley

*The man from Aldersgate: John Wesley; John Wesley* (DVD) - John Wesley

*Hudson Taylor* (1981) - Hudson Taylor

*Luther* - Martin Luther

*Mother Teresa* (1986), *Mother Teresa: The Legacy* (2004) - Mother Teresa

*The lady with the lamp* (1951) - Florence Nightingale

*Fanny Crosby* (1984) - Fanny Crosby

*Karol: A man who became Pope* (2005 - DVD); *Pope John Paul II* (2005 for TV) - Pope John Paul II

# Handout 1 - Guards/Rangers

**Choose a Christian hero to research. Use the following questions as a guide to prepare a presentation for the group on the person you choose. Some questions may not be relevant to the hero you are researching.**

What is the hero's name?

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When and where was he/she born?

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If he/she grew up in a different country, where was that?

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How did she/he come to follow Jesus?

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What work or mission did he/she do for God and what did he/she have to do? If another country was involved, what country was it?

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How did the hero first react to God's call to this work?

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What skills or abilities did the hero feel she/he had or lacked for God's work? How did she/he overcome any fears, disabilities or obstacles to fulfilling the work?

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What outstanding personal characteristics or traits impressed you and why?

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How has this person impacted your life?

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Hudson Taylor (1981) - Hudson Taylor  
Luther - Martin Luther