



Heroes of the
Cross

Heroes 1 of the CROSS



How would you describe a hero in a few words?



Often in books and films we follow the life of a 'hero':

Nice-looking, smart, strong... But what is often the motivation of the 'hero'?

All the way through history this seems to have been a problem. Even men of God were tempted to let self rise and be the centre of attention. Can you find some examples hidden in the quiz below?

- 1) Name the 'hero' (order the given letters right).
- 2) What did he do to glorify himself or be known as a hero? (Read the Bible text and find out!)
- 3) Did it really lead him to be a hero? What was the result? (Read the Bible text and find out!)

A) Name: IENGOD
Bible-text: Judges 8:24-27

B) Name: AIVDD
Bible-text: 1. Chronicles 21:1-8

C) Name: ZEHAKIHI
Bible-text: 2. Kings 20:12-19

D) Name: LOSOMNO
Bible-text: Ecclesiastes 2:4-11, 17

E) Name: CAHARENUZBDNZ
Bible-text: Daniel 4:28-33

But where does this desire for self-exaltation come from?

The Bible tells us that far back in time there was a war in the universe
- the real Star War!

Find out how the Bible describes this war by ordering the mixed up words
and filling in the blank squares with the right pictures from the cutting
page in the middle of the book-let (Cut 1).

Rev. 12:7-9:
"AND [] BROKE OUT IN [] : _____
(CIMHELA)
AND HIS [] FOUGHT WITH THE [] ; AND THE
[] AND HIS [] FOUGHT, BUT THEY DID NOT
_____, NOR WAS A _____ FOUND FOR THEM IN []
(VALIREP) (LPCAE)

ANY LONGER. SO THE GREAT WAS CAST OUT, THAT

OF OLD, CALLED THE _____ AND _____, WHO
(EDILV) (TASNA)

DECEIVES THE WHOLE ; HE WAS CAST TO THE EARTH,

AND HIS WERE CAST OUT WITH HIM."

Do you know that we can look into the mind of that being who created all this chaos?

Turn to Isaiah 14:12-14

What is he called? _____ (ICULREF)

Fill in one small word which fits in all the blank spaces:

" WILL ASCEND INTO HEAVEN, WILL EXALT MY THRONE ABOVE THE STARS OF GOD; WILL ALSO SIT ON THE MOUNT OF THE CONGREGATION ON THE FARTHEREST SIDES OF THE NORTH; WILL ASCEND ABOVE THE HEIGHTS OF THE CLOUDS, WILL BE LIKE THE MOST HIGH."

How many times were this word mentioned? _____

Fill in the same word in the blank spaces below. Which words do you get?

S N

PR DE

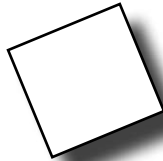
Cut out the arrows on the cutting-page in the middle (Cut 2), and mark the direction of the thoughts of this being.

He wanted to be a hero -

but where did it lead (fill in the square with an arrow)?

Isaiah 14:15:

"YET YOU SHALL BE BROUGHT



Now, let us look at a true HERO:

Philippians 2:9-10:

"THEREFORE GOD ALSO HAS _____ (GYHLIH) _____ (AXEHTLDE) HIM AND GIVEN HIM THE NAME WHICH IS _____ (BOAEV) EVERY NAME, THAT AT THE NAME OF _____ (SEJSU) EVERY KNEE SHALL BOW..."

This is truly a HERO description - but why, what lead Him to this supreme position?

What is the first word in Philippians 2:9-10? _____

OK - there is a reason why He is such a incomparable HERO. Let's read the verses before and find out why! Once more we are let into the mind:

Philippians 2:5-8

Cut out the arrows on the cutting-page in the middle (Cut 2), and mark the direction of His thoughts.

That's why He can be such an incomparable HERO!

Because Gods kingdom has a rule, which is this lessons memory-verse: Matthew 23:12!
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Heroes ⁽²⁾ of the CROSS



Memory-verse:

"IF ANYONE DESIRES TO COME
AFTER ME, LET HIM _____
(YEDN) HIMSELF, AND _____
_____ (AKTE PU
SIH RSOCS) AND FOLLOW ME."
(Matthew 16:24)

What do you think those two blanks in the memory-verse mean?

Do you think Jesus had the desire to die on the cross? Read Luke 22:39-44
and answer:

Why did He die then? (Romans 3:23 - Romans 6:23 - Romans 5:8 - Isaiah
53:11 - Hebrews 12:2)

Give the right answers by cutting (from the cutting-page in the middle -
Cut 3) and pasting the right symbols into the circles on the next page.



Jesus sinners



Jesus sin



Jesus to save

Give some examples of how Jesus denied Himself. Connect the picture and Bible-texts which fit together with an arrow!



John 19:17-18

Mark 6:31-34



Matthew 4:2-4

Matthew 26:36-39



Luke 2:7

When Jesus was willing to sacrifice so much because He loved us, should we not be willing to sacrifice because we love Him?



What fills your heart?

Who should come first in our lives?

Underneat you see some of the things that may fill our hearts. Unite the Bibleverse (which describes why these things may hinder Jesus from dwelling in our heart) to

the fitting picture by drawing an arrow.

1 Peter 3:3-4



Phillipians 4:8



2 Timothy 6:10



1 Corinthians 6:19-20

Phillipians 2:3-4

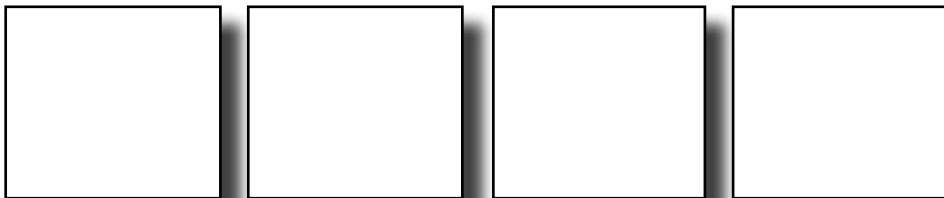


In the Bible we find some stories of people that were willing to sacrifice for Jesus, and others that were not willing to give up their 'idols'.

On the cutting-page in the middle of the pamphlet, you'll find 8 pictures mixed together (Cut 4). They make up 2 stories. Cut and paste to get a 'cartoon-strip' of each story. Fit the Bible-texts below to the right story!

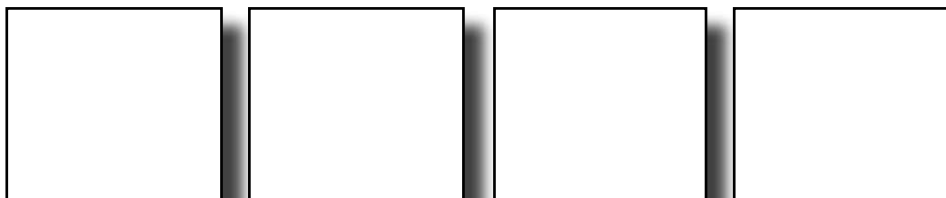
Luke 18:18-23

Luke 19:1-10



Story 1 is about: _____

The story is found in (Bible-text): _____



Story 2 is about: _____

The story is found in (Bible-text): _____

The memory-verse said that we need to deny ourselves and take up our cross. The next verse adds: "For whoever desires to save his life will loose it, but whoever looses his life for My sake will find it." (Matthew 16:24-25)

Can you find two examples from nature which illustrates what this means?
The pictures give you a hint! Fit the Bible-verses to your illustrations:



2 Cor. 5:17

Joh. 12:24-25



Heroes ³ of the CROSS



Memory-verse:

"THEREFORE WE ALSO, SINCE WE ARE SURROUNDED BY SO GREAT A CLOUD OF _____ (INTWESSE), LET US LAY ASIDE EVERY _____ (EIWTGH), AND THE _____ (INS) WHICH SO EASILY ENSNARES US, AND LET US _____ (UNR) WITH _____ (NDERUANEC) THE _____ (AREC) THAT IS SET BEFORE US, LOOKING UNTO _____ (SJSUE), THE _____ (TUARHO) AND _____ (NIFISHRE) OF OUR FAITH, WHO FOR THE _____ (OJY) THAT WAS SET _____ (EFBOER) HIM ENDURED THE _____ (OSRSC), DESPISING THE SHAME, AND HAS SAT DOWN AT THE RIGHT HAND OF THE THRONE OF GOD."

Sin is like a bag of trash. Jesus is planning to make all things clean and pure and nice. He knows that in order to do so, He must get rid of and burn this trash-bag. But how unlogic it may sound, we many times cling on to this rubbish. Jesus sais: Look, why do you carry around this trash? Cast your burden on Me. Otherwise it will eventually kill you, 'cause I must burn that bag in order to clean up this messy planet. If the bag burns, and you won't let it go, you'll burn with it.

What is sin? 1. John 3:4:

"WHOEVER COMMITS SIN _____ (RATNSRGSSES) THE
____ (AWL), FOR SIN IS TO _____ (REBKA) THE ____ (WLA)"

How many people have sinned? Romans 3:23

"FOR ____ (LAL) HAVE SINNED..."

What is the result (wages) of sin? Romans 6:23

"FOR THE WAGES OF SIN IS _____ (TEDHA)..."

What happens to all human beings because of sin? Romans 5:12

"_____ (AEDHT) SPREAD TO ____ (LAL) MEN, BECAUSE ____ (LLA)
_____ (NISNDE)."

Can the law help us out? Can the law save us - or can we be saved by trying
to keep the law? Romans 3:20

"THEREFORE BY THE _____ (ESED) OF THE ____ (AWL) ____ (ON)
_____ (LEFHS) WILL BE JUSTIFIED IN HIS (GODS) SIGHT..."

What is the purpose of the law then? Romans 3:20, 7:7

"...FOR BY THE ____ (WAL) IS THE _____ (NOKWELDEG)
OF ____ (NIS)." "FOR I WOULD NOT HAVE _____ (NKWON) ____
(NIS) EXCEPT THROUGH THE ____ (ALW)."

The law is like a mirror. It shows us that we are sinners. Sinners deserves
death. The law can't make us clean, though, and it can't take our penalty.

But it points us to One who can! What's the solution? 1. John 1:9

"IF WE _____ (ONCESFS) OUR ____ (NSIS)... THE _____
(LOBOD) OF _____ (ESUJS RHCSIT) HIS SON
_____ (SCLAENSE) US FROM ____ (LAL NIS)."

This is called grace. The wonderful thing about grace is that it not only
cleanses, but even gives the power to stay clean (Titus 2:11-14)!

On the next page you'll find a little story of Mary and John. Unfortunately they are having a bad day, but don't worry - the story ends well (: Mary and John are pictured on page 15. Follow closely, and discover the times they give into temptation. Mark which commandments they break on the two tables on page 14. For each time they commit a sin, you can also mark a stain on their clothes (with pencil!). Sin stains our **characters**, so ususally it does not leave any seen marks. Anyway we illustrate it in this way.

If we have been out playing, and look into the mirror as we come home in the evening, we may be surpriced with a dirty face. Remember we said that the law is like a mirror. When we have done something wrong, the law points that out to us. What would you do if you looked into the mirror and found out you had muddy spots? Get angry at the mirror and break it because it revealed how dirty you were? No - that's no good solution! Ask the mirror to cleanse you? No, it can't! Find a wash-cloth, water, soap and clean, new clothes? Yes! Jesus has both the cleansing water, the 'launderer's soap', and He wants to give us His own clean and white robe of righteousness.

Draw a line between the pictures and the fitting Bible-verses:



Isaiah 61:10

Ezekiel 36:25

Malachi 3:2

GOD'S TEN Commandments (Exodus 20. 3-17)

1. You shall have no other gods before Me.
2. You shall not make for yourself a carved image –any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those that hate Me, but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments.
3. You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.
4. Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labour and do all your work, but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord your God. In it you shall do no work, you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates. For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.

5. Honour your father and your mother, that your days may be long upon the land which the Lord your God is giving you.

6. You shall not murder.

7. You shall not commit adultery.

8. You shall not steal.

9. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.

10. You shall not covet your neighbour's house; you shall not covet your neighbour's wife, nor his male servant, nor his female servant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that is your neighbour's.

So - the story of Mary and John:

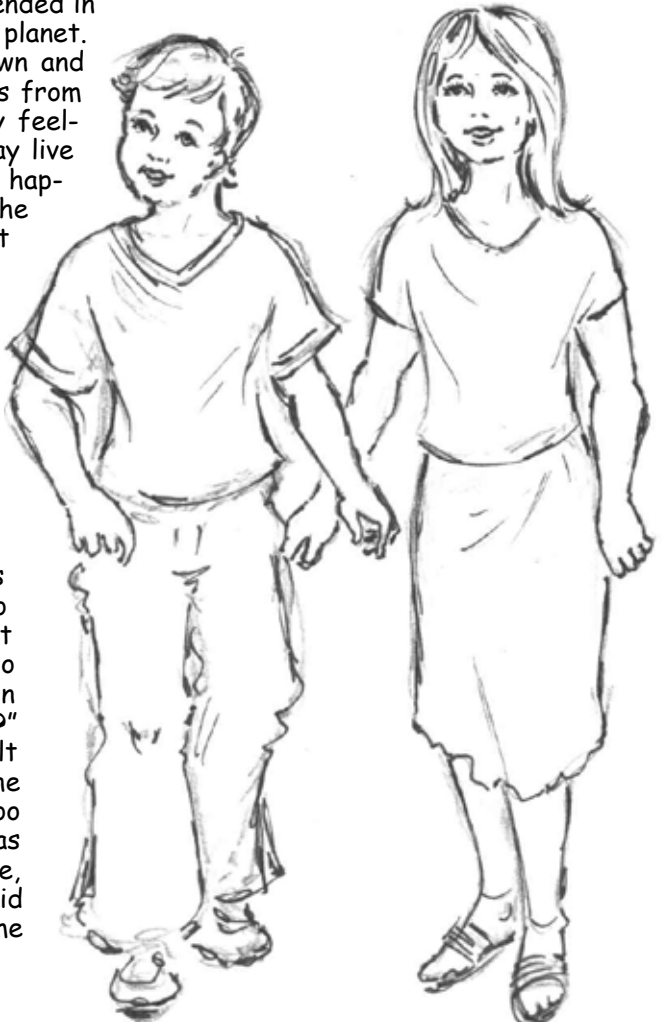
Bump! Mary wakes up from her sweet dreams. She painfully opens her eyes as the morning sun meets her sleepy face and turns towards her little brother. Wasn't that what she thought - there the nice tower they had built was scattered all over the floor. "Silly John, I warned you yesterday evening", she screamed irritated. "You always turn and kick in your bed, and you should have known better than to place that tower so close - a whole day's work in pieces!" "Shut up, Mary", John mumbled back with annoyance, "You scream into my ears!"

It wasn't a nice start of the day, and none of them had any desire for morning prayer. Instead John went to one side of the room trying to act out his inner annoyance by chasing the enemy in his computer game, while Mary hid in the opposite corner seeking comfort from her Barbie's.

Soon they heard dad coming down the stairs. John quickly hid away his little computer-game. He had got it from a friend while they still went to public school, but had never dared to show it to mum and dad. He knew that they didn't like that he played such violent games. Mary pushed the Barbie's aside and crawled into her bed, kneeling. But it was mere pretence. She did not feel any connection with God. "I am so happy to see you having your morning prayer", dad said with a smile as he entered the door. "Come, let us have worship!"

Dad read from the story of Cain and Abel. He well pictured how one sin may lead to another, and that it all starts in the mind. Cain wanted his own way. Cain didn't want to be dictated either by God or his brother. Cain became irritated as his brother was more favoured. He petted his angry feelings - and it ended in the first murder on this planet. "Shouldn't we kneel down and ask the Lord to keep us from all annoyance and angry feelings to day, that we may live together in peace and happiness?" dad asked. The children nodded, but they felt hollow inside.

After breakfast the children had their lots. It was Friday, and they were to prepare for the Sabbath. Mary was on her way out to the rubbish bin with some trash, as one of the neighbour-boys passed by. He was on his way to school. "So you are slaving away at home - why don't you go to school and have fun with the other children?" he teased. Mary still felt the grumpy spirit of the morning, and this was too much. She was shocked as she heard herself curse, and adding: "My stupid parents don't want me to".



The boy passed by. Mary stood as paralysed. She felt the voice of conscience, but pushed it aside. It was like a spirit of stubbornness had taken hold of her. "I want to be like the other girls", she said to herself. In that same moment her eyes fell on an object laying a few meters down the street. It was such a beauty-set she had always envied - with make-up and all those things. Surely one of the girls must have dropped it. She quickly looked around, grasped it and hid it under the jacket.

"Why did it take you so long to empty the trash", mum wondered as Mary came back. "You know the time for classes has already started". "Oh, I just had a long chat with old sister Anderson down the street", Mary said with a pretended smile.

John had kind of forgotten the controversy in the morning, and the day seemed to go all right for him. Mary felt everything went against her and in the evening she couldn't hold it any longer.

As the holy hours of the Sabbath drew near, mum sat in the living-room preparing for the Children's Sabbath School the following day. From a distance Mary studied the mother. She seemed so happy, satisfied and peaceful. She cast a glance out the window. The other children were on their way back from school. She saw them puffing each other, screaming and teasing. All the day the thoughts had bothered her mind: I want to be like the other children. She looked back at mum. Thoughts of Children's Sabbath School, out-doors and mission activities with the children at church flashed through her mid. What a contrast! She remembered the times she was one with God. She had admired Jesus, and longed to be like Him - longed to be with Him in heaven soon. She couldn't bear it any longer. Tears were streaming down her face. She buried her head in her hands with sighs of confession. Soon she felt mums comforting touch. As she opened her eyes she felt like a new person. The burden that had pressed her all day was gone!

It was time for sunset-worship and dad had entered the living-room as well. Mary asked forgiveness for her hypocrisy, grumpiness, lying and stealing. What a relief! What a blessed Sabbath-peace!

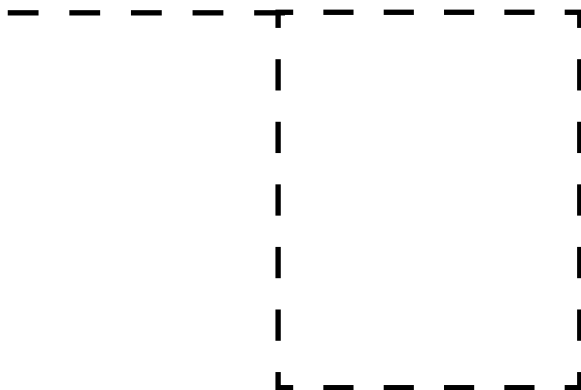
John was missing as the sun was about to set. In his 'no worries' mindset he had join the other boys to play football, in stead of coming right back after shopping, as mum had asked. The game was so amusing that he forgot all about time. Suddenly he became aware of the setting sun. He picked up the groceries and hurried home. There mum, dad and Mary was sitting, dressed in Sabbath-clothes. He waited for a tsunami of a sermon from Mary, but all three just smiled. Those smiles were a sermon in itself. A sermon of grace - because he had not deserved it at all. His conscience preached the rest of the sermon and his heart was touched. Kneeling down on the floor he looked up at the three with a humble and embarrassed smile: "Forgive me!"

Which commandments did they break? Well - I suppose their clothes are pretty stained with spots, but as the story closes they are not filled with spots anymore. Grace has cleansed those away. And so you too can use your rubber gum to remove all the spots!

The memory-verse challenged us to lay aside every burden and the sin which so easily ensnares us. We do not only want to go from day to day, experiencing sin and defeat, repentance and forgiveness, sin and defeat, repentance and forgiveness. We want to experience the joy and satisfaction of a life in victory. But how can we experience this? Do we have to watch out and compare our lives with the law and make sure that we do not break it? Will such a focus give us a happy and free life? No. The law is given to protect us, that's right, and there is joy in keeping it and be free from its condemnation. But this will be a natural result if we have the focus on Him who is the law in person.

LOOKING UNTO JESUS - that's the clue, and the Bible tells us that as we are looking to Jesus, we will be so attracted to Him, so absorbed by His beautiful character, that almost without noticing we will be more like Him (2. Cor. 3:18).

Cut out illustration 'Cut 5' from the cutting page. Cut out the cross and follow the horizontal lines. Cut the lines on this page, and glue it together with the following page as marked. Fit illustration 'Cut 5' into the 'tunnel' made between page 17-19. Find the secret to live a happy, victorius life!



glue ↑

glue ↓



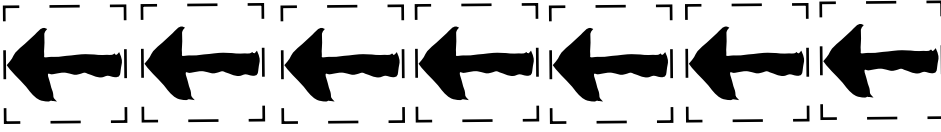
Greetings from
my friends...



Cut 1



Cut 2



Cut 3



Cut 4



Cut 5

