

Lesson Notes:

Four Traits of a Hero

When we examine the lives of some of the great men and women of the Bible there are four common traits that stand out in each of them. Below are common traits that we see in the lives of David, Joshua, Caleb and Esther:

Scriptural Principles

- 1) **Passion for Our Lord** – All four of our great servants had an undying passion for the Lord. David in **Psalm 23** expressed his wonderful passion for God. In **Joshua 23:6-8** Joshua expresses his gratitude for God's mercy and guidance. In **Numbers 32:11-12** God said that Caleb would see the promise land because he served him wholly.
- 2) **Commitment** – In **1 Kings 2:1-4** David expresses his commitment to God in his final instructions to Solomon from his death bed. In **Joshua 24:14-15** when Joshua became aware that the children of Israel had graven images from their conquering of the Amorites hidden in their tents. Joshua demonstrates his total commitment to God by telling the children of Israel to make a choice as to whom they would serve and as for he and his house they “would serve the Lord”. In **Numbers 14:23-25** God singles out Caleb for his courage and commitment to him when he encouraged the children of Israel to take the land God promised them even though it was inhabited by giants.
- 3) **Compassion for God's People** – Even though Saul had been trying to kill David, David spared Saul's life on two occasions (**1 Samuel 24:1-6; 1 Samuel 26:6-9**) first in a cave and secondly when he found him asleep because he believed he was God's chosen King. David also showed great compassion for Jonathan's crippled son in **2 Samuel 9:6-9**. Esther showed compassion for her people by telling her King the plans of Nathan in **Esther 7:1-6** even though it could have cost her, her own life.
- 4) **Courage** - David slew Goliath at the age of 12 (**1 Samuel 17:41-50**). Goliath was over 9 feet tall and the head of his spear alone weighed over 6 pounds. All of Saul's soldiers trembled in fear at the sight and the sounds of Goliath, yet David at the age of 12 took Goliath's challenge not for himself but for the honor of God. Esther could have lived a life of luxury in the King's palace but risk it all to save her people in **Esther 4:13-17**. Finally, Joshua and Caleb were the only 2 men that were not afraid of the giants that dwelled in the land of Canaan (**Numbers 13:27-33; Numbers 14:1-9**).

The key learning for us is how can we show a Passion for God, a Commitment to Christ, a Compassion for People and Courage in the face of adversity on a daily basis for our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ?