

The Salvation Army Hadleigh Temple Songster Devotions

Wednesday 1st July 2020

At the beginning of another month in lockdown we have a little more freedom, more for some than others we have to give thanks to all who have made this possible, they have been referred to as a Hero. If you look up the meaning of this word it is defined as people admired for great or noble deeds and qualities associated with being very brave. The word has been used to describe many people throughout the ages in many different circumstances. Bringing this up to date we can identify many instances recently when this can be applied, not only NHS and Social Care staff but other acts that do not hit the headlines who have put their wellbeing at risk for the sake of others.

We all have our own Heroes past and present that have influenced us at some time. One person who comes to mind for me is Nelson Mandela who saw his people oppressed by apartheid, he was opposed by the establishment and ended up imprisoned on Robben Island for over 20 years. The amazing outcome was that when released instead of being bitter and advocating violence his special qualities and reasoning were recognised by the Authorities and Apartheid was abolished. Nelson Mandela's book 'Long Walk to Freedom' describes that journey. You will of course have your own Heroes.

In the Bible we have many descriptions in both the Old and New Testaments of people who have been brave in answering God's call from Abraham who left his homeland in answer to move to Canaan as described in Genesis: Ch.12 v.1-9. It turned out to be a very difficult and arduous journey.

In the New Testament I think of the disciple Peter as a hero eventually, he was one of the first disciples then called Simon, along with his brother Andrew to be chosen by Jesus as outlined in Matthew: Ch.4 v.18-20. As we know Peter was not perfect, he has his flaws and comes across as impulsive but wishing to do good, a very human trait we can identify.

It was Jesus who saw his potential and renamed him Peter the Rock on which 'I will build my Church' Matthew: Ch.16 v. 17-18. we are all a part of this plan.

As humans we are all flawed, but have the potential to be Heroes for Jesus.

May the simple words in Chorus 851 be a Prayer for us all.

I Want to live right, that God may use me at any time and anywhere;

I want to live right, that God may use me at any time and anywhere.

Prayer.

We give thanks for all the heroes that have been before and that we remain worthy to be called your Disciples.

KEEP SAFE AND WELL

God Bless

LOUISE