



## Heroes 3 :: *An American Hero* :: Andy Stanley & Chris Plekenpol

### INTRODUCTION

Heroes come in all shapes and sizes. Some take the form of mothers who teach their children to always choose the harder right than the easier wrong. Some take the form of wives who stand faithfully by their husband's side and pour out love and care in the wake of tragedy. Other heroes are formed on the battlefield, finding clarity and taking action in the face of bullets and bombs. Regardless, there is something that all heroes need in their lives.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Our freedom and the liberty of others has been won and preserved by our soldiers. How do these men and women exemplify what it means to be a hero?
2. In the heat of battle and during intense pressure, a soldier's training takes over and gives him the clarity to take action. Have you ever been placed in an intense situation where your training, experience, or instincts took over?
3. Read 1 Peter 3:15. You never know when you'll have the opportunity to talk about your faith with someone. What kind of preparation can you undertake so that you will be ready when the time comes?
4. When under attack, fear creeps in and chokes out our ability to focus. It is times like these that led Captain Chris Plekenpol to realize, who else are you going to turn to but Jesus Christ? What are the fears that attempt to fog your thinking?
5. How do you handle your fears?
6. Heroes on the battlefield selflessly put their fellow soldiers before themselves. How can you, this week, put the needs of others before your own?
7. Read the parable of the prodigal son in Luke 15:11-32. Has there been a time in your life when you ran away from God?

8. What brought you back?
  
9. How has your life been different since you have come into a relationship with Jesus Christ?
  
10. Do you know of someone who is keeping God at a distance? What can you do as a next step to lead him or her into a relationship with Jesus Christ?

#### THINK ABOUT IT

Heroes are able to choose the harder right over the easier wrong. Where are you tempted to take the easy way out? What will be lost if you choose the easy way?

#### WHAT WILL YOU DO?

What is the harder right? What do you need to do?

#### CHANGING YOUR MIND

*But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have... 1 Peter 3:15*

