

Week 23

Day 1



Jehovah Rocks:

Yahweh, You are King forever and ever! (Psalm 9:7)

See It:

'Ehud walked over to Eglon, who was sitting alone in a cool upstairs room. And Ehud said, "I have a message from God for you!" As King Eglon rose from his seat, Ehud reached with his left hand, pulled out the dagger strapped to his right thigh, and plunged it into the king's belly. The dagger went so deep that the handle disappeared in all the king's fat. So, Ehud did not pull out the dagger, and the king's bowels emptied. Then Ehud closed and locked the doors of the room and escaped down the toilet.' (Judges 3:20-23)

On It:

Ehud was a southpaw, which means he fought with his left hand. In some cultures, people look down on southpaws. In other cultures, they just overlook them. This story took place in the second kind. They overlooked Ehud's sword on his right thigh under his cloak when they checked him for weapons. His people, Israel, were being oppressed and bullied by the Moabites and God raised Ehud up to overthrow the evil empire. We like it when it says this part: "The Moabite King, Eglon, was a very fat man" (v17). And Ehud courageously snuck into the palace and took down the King by stabbing him in the belly! Two keys for us here: 1. God raised Ehud up. Ehud did not decide to do this on his own; 2. Ehud prepared himself and obeyed (v16 and following describe the preparations). So, when God raises you up to do something, prepare yourself and obey.

Live It:

God has blessed The Salvation Army with a great 'cloud of witnesses' and a 'Hall of Faith'. That means that we have a whole lot of people in our history that have done amazing things, and now they are in Heaven

cheering us on! Hallelujah! We thank God for the example and legacy of these heroes.

Do It:

This week we are going to design a Salvation Army superhero. Today you need to come up with a name for your superhero.

In It:

Pray for all of the heroic missionaries around the world who risk their lives and sacrifice their luxuries for the sake of the gospel.

Eat It:

'People were overwhelmed with amazement. "He has done everything well," they said. "He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak."' (Mark 7:37)

Read It:

One-year Bible Plan: Read Proverbs 28-29, Psalm 60, & Romans 16

Week 23

Day 2



Jehovah Rocks:

You are the greatest and best and You deserve to be praised and respected. You are our King and You rule over the whole world. (Psalm 47:2).

See It:

'When the princes in Israel take the lead, when the people willingly offer themselves - praise the LORD!' (Judges 5:2)

On It:

When the leaders lead and the people volunteer, well, praise the Lord! That is the way it is supposed to be. Too often leaders slack off and the people complain. Or leaders just give in and do whatever the people want. But God wants leaders to lead and the people to volunteer. This word 'volunteer' in Hebrew is Nadab, and means to be willing, to do something freely, and to give freely. It means that the people freely offered themselves to go to war for God. They didn't complain. And Deborah, one of the mighty women leaders in the Bible, led them to battle, and, with the help of the brave Jael, they had victory over the evil Canaanites. Deborah was both judge and general of Israel. And the key to her victory is that she followed Yahweh!

Live It:

Teenager 'Happy' Eliza (Lieutenant Eliza Haynes) raised a crowd of 3,000 at her corps in Marylebone, England in no time. She became famous throughout that country in the early 1880s. Songs were sung about her in the music halls, and dolls, toys, and candy were named after her! Another hero!

Do It:

Come up with a costume for your superhero Salvationist.



In It:

Pray for all the heroes living in incredibly poor and difficult conditions who continue to put their faith in Jesus. We pray that their life will improve, and that they will receive the help they need to make things better in their community.

Eat It: Mark 7:37

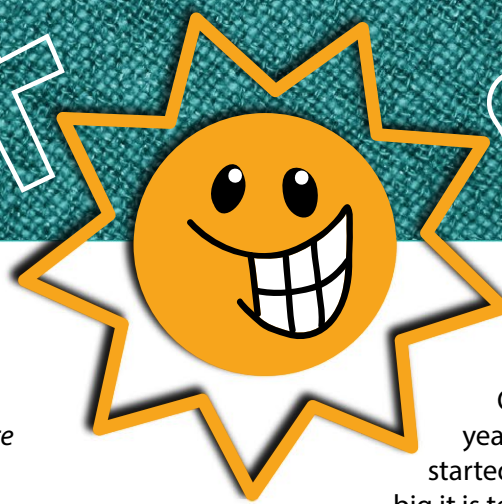
'People were overwhelmed with amazement!' This is the normal reaction of people who meet Jesus. Overwhelming amazement. Jesus is amazing. Going from His miraculous birth, coming from Heaven into the womb of a teenaged Mary, through to His miraculous resurrection, He is overwhelmingly amazing.

Read It:

One-year Bible Plan: Read Proverbs 30-31, Psalm 33, & Ephesians 1

Week 23

Day 3



Jehovah Rocks:

I worship You, my King. You are so great and worthy. You are so strong and just. You rule the earth and You are in control. (Psalm 93:1)

See It:

'Jael went out to meet Sisera and said to him, "Come into my tent, sir. Come in. Don't be afraid." So, he went into her tent, and she covered him with a blanket. "Please give me some water," he said. "I'm thirsty." So, she gave him some milk from a leather bag and covered him again. "Stand at the door of the tent," he told her. "If anybody comes and asks you if there is anyone here, say no." But when Sisera fell asleep from exhaustion, Jael quietly crept up to him with a hammer and tent peg in her hand. Then she drove the tent peg through his temple and into the ground, and so he died.' (Judges 4:17-21)

On It:

What do you like to drink when you are tired? Some kids like water; others like hot chocolate. General Sisera, the commander of the Canaanite Army, favoured warm milk. He was exhausted, in the heat of battle against Deborah's Army of Israel, when he retreated. His army was a mess, having been beaten by the Israelites. He just needed a rest. Jael saw him and invited him to rest in her tent. He asked for water, but she gave him the milk. She covered him with a blanket, and he fell asleep. Then she took a tent peg and hammered it through his temple. Ouch! 'So, God subdued on that day Jabin the king of Canaan before the sons of Israel' (v23). Look at Jael! She is one brave and tough lady!

Live It:

Officer Eliza Shirley, at just 16 years old, went to America and started The Salvation Army! Look how big it is today! And it all started with her heroic step of faith.



Do It:

Come up with the mission of your superhero.

In It:

Pray for the heroes in countries where it is forbidden to worship Jesus. They smuggle in Bibles and start underground groups that follow Jesus and see millions saved. Pray that they will have God's protection.

Eat It:

 Mark 7:37

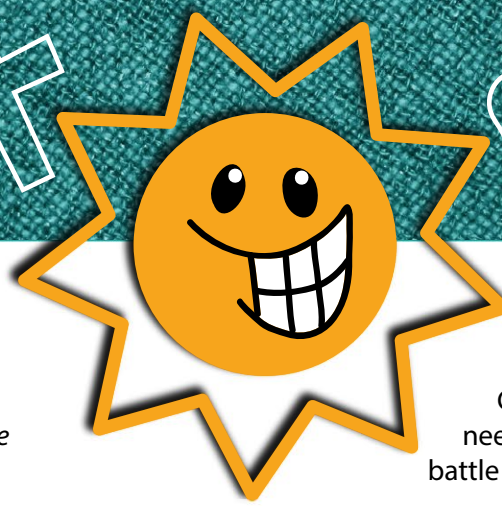
'He has done everything well! He does all things well. Jesus has faced everything that we have – but He has faced it all well. He never slipped up, never misjudged things, never gave in, never threw in the towel. Memorize this verse.

Read It:

One-year Bible Plan: Read Ecclesiastes 1-3, Psalm 45, & Ephesians 2

Week 23

Day 4



Jehovah Rocks:

I trust in You, Yahweh, and because of that I am like a mountain that cannot be shaken or tipped over. Praise You! (Psalm 125:1)

Do It:

Come up with some special gadgets your superhero will need. Keep in mind, this superhero is going to be fighting in a battle to save all the world for Jesus.

See It:

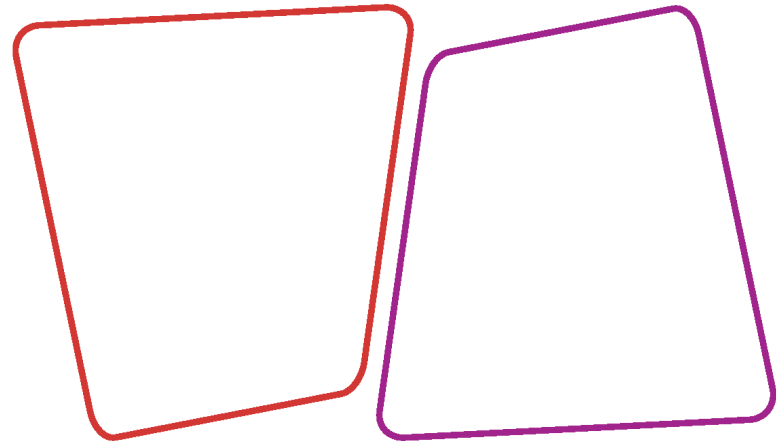
'Then all three groups blew their horns and broke their jars. They held the blazing torches in their left hands and the horns in their right hands, and they all shouted, "A sword for the Lord and for Gideon!" Each warrior stood in his position around the camp and watched as all the Midianites hurried around in a panic, shouting as they ran to escape. When the 300 Israelites blew their rams horns, the Lord caused the warriors in the camp to fight against each other with their swords.' (Judges 7:20-22)

On It:

Have you ever faced impossible odds? Well, Gideon had a tough assignment from God. You can read all of the juicy details in chapters 6-8. But the important statistics are these: Gideon was youngest in the family (6:15); Gideon's was the least important in the tribe (6:15); Israel was oppressed by the evil Midianite empire (6:13); Midianite Army had 135,000 soldiers (8:10); Israelite Army had 300 soldiers (7:8); Supernatural help for Israel - One God! (7:7), Yahweh! If you have our God Yahweh on your side, you need never be afraid or give up.

Live It:

When Kate Booth (Catherine Booth's daughter) was asked the secret of her power in the Salvation War, she answered: 'First, it is love; second, love; third, love. And if you ask me how to get it, I answer first, by sacrifice; second, by sacrifice; third, by sacrifice.'



In It:

Thank You that You give us Your Holy Spirit and that because of this we have the power to do Your work. Give me courage so that I can be a hero for You!

Eat It:

Mark 7:37
'He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak.' He demonstrates His authority and power over disease, sickness, infirmity, and ill-health. And He also exercises authority over death. There is nothing He cannot do. Hallelujah.

Read It:

One-year Bible Plan: Read Ecclesiastes 4-6, Psalm 18, & Ephesians 3

Week 23

Day 5



Jehovah Rocks:

*I sing to You, Yahweh! You are worthy of all the praise.
And You are so worthy that every person in the world
should sing a song to You! (Psalm 96:1)*

See It:

'Word soon spread that Samson was there, so the people of Gaza gathered together and waited all night at the town gates. They kept quiet during the night, saying to themselves, "When the light of morning comes, we will kill him." But Samson stayed in bed only until midnight. Then he got up, grabbed hold of the doors of the town gate, including the two posts, and lifted them up, bar and all. He put them on his shoulders and carried them all the way to the top of the hill across from Hebron.' (Judges 16:1-3)

On It:

The point of these stories is to show how God can work in all kinds of people to do heroic things. This week we have seen a woman judge and general, a lady living in a tent serving warm milk, a southpaw, and the youngest kid in his family. What made them heroes is that they obeyed God. Samson stands out as an exception to this group in that he WAS a big tough guy. But the only reason he was a big tough guy is that his parents dedicated him to God to live in covenant with Him. As long as Samson lived in covenant with God, he had great power. But when he broke his covenant with God, he lost all of his power. So, whether you rip out the city gates like Samson or you stand against evil on your school playground, the key for you is to live in covenant relationship with God by keeping your promise to Him.

Live It:

In December 1882, five Salvationists invaded New South Wales, Australia. Two years later, The Salvation Army had 20,000 soldiers and adherents

in 46 Corps! The invasion of Victoria, Australia grew similarly from nothing to 20,000 in two years.

Do It:

Design some super friends that are going to help your superhero in mission.

In It:

Think of someone in your life that you would call a hero. Write a list of things that make them heroic and then pray that God will do even more through them.

Eat It: Mark 7:37

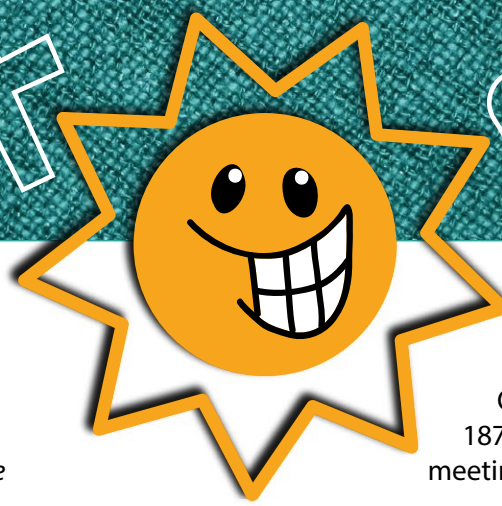
This verse expresses a bit about how great Jesus is. But you know, there is no limit to His greatness. In fact, the apostle John suggested that the whole world couldn't contain all the books describing all the great things Jesus did.

Read It:

One-year Bible Plan: Read Ecclesiastes 7-9, & Ephesians 4

Week 23

Day 6



Jehovah Rocks:

You will always be my God, and You will always be the God of the universe... forever! Every single person that will ever live on earth can have You as their God because You will never end your reign. (Psalm 135:13)

See It:

'As Samuel was sacrificing the burnt offering, the Philistines arrived to fight Israel. But the Lord spoke with a mighty voice of thunder from Heaven that day, and the Philistines were put into such confusion that the Israelites beat them... Samuel then took a large stone and placed it between the towns of Mizpah and Jeshanah. He named it Ebenezer (which means "the stone of help"), for he said, "Up to this point the Lord has helped us!"... And throughout Samuel's lifetime, the Lord's powerful hand was raised against the Philistines.' (1 Samuel 7:10-13)

On It:

Do you ever confuse your sister's voice for your mom's voice? Maybe she is calling you from another room in your home, the TV is on, your ear is stuck to a phone and you are trying to listen to your friend... Well, you can relate to young Samuel. God called him three times and each time he thought it was his guardian, the priest. Finally, he realized it was God and that set his life on a course that changed history. The story we read today shows how Samuel was sacrificing to God. And Samuel set up a memorial stone called Ebenezer - Thus Far has the Lord Helped Us - to help the Israelites remember and honour God's powerful protection in their lives. I think you should set up a stone somewhere in your bedroom as a reminder of God's protective power.

Live It:

Officer Kate Shepherd, 17, opened Rhondday Valley Corps in 1879 and within a year there were 15,000 people at the welcome meeting for General Catherine Booth. Wow, she is a total hero!

Do It:

Write the superheroes famous last words they would say at the end of every battle.

In It:

Lord, please send your Spirit into all your children to inspire them to be heroic!

Eat It: Mark 7:37

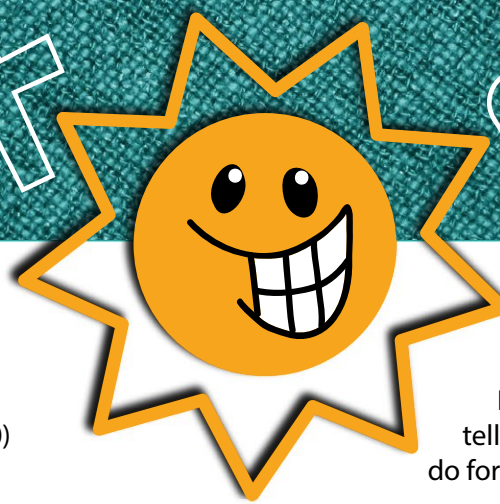
Overwhelming amazement is good. But it must be quickly be joined by loving obedience. That amazement generates our loving obedience of Jesus. So, when you run in to people who are amazed, press them toward loving obedience.

Read It:

One-year Bible Plan: Read Ecclesiastes 10-12, Psalm 94, & Ephesians 5

Week 23

Day 7



Jehovah Rocks:

You are going to be my King forever! You are going to be in charge of heaven and earth forever! (Psalm 146:10)

See It:

"All right then," Jonathan told him. "We will cross over and let them see us. If they say to us, 'Stay where you are or we'll kill you,' then we will stop and not go up to them. But if they say, 'Come on up and fight,' then we will go up. That will be the Lord's sign that He will help us defeat them." (1 Samuel 14:8-10)

On It:

This is one of my favourite stories in the Bible. Jonathan is not one of the big names in the Bible. He's like a supporting co-star. But Jonathan had a reckless faith that might be a helpful example for us. The Philistines were the evil empire in this era. The Israelites cowered in their presence (well, most, except Jonathan and his sword bearer). The Philistines were so mean that they would not let any blacksmiths work in Israel so that Israelites could not get any swords! It was so bad that only King Saul and his son Jonathan had a sword! You can read the first half of chapter 14 to get the whole story but the thing is, Jonathan picks a fight. He basically goes up to the Philistines - just Jonathan and his armour bearer - and challenges a whole Philistine fort. As you read the bit we've included above, you can see that Jonathan makes it so that it is almost impossible not to start a fight. He wants to fight, and he trusts God to come through for him. And God does!

Live It:

Early Indian Salvationists' boom marches started corps in every village they went to, leaving an officer to command, until they ran out of officers; nearly every new country pioneered in the 19th Century saw revival.

Do It:

Present your superhero to your Sunday School leaders and tell them all about the wonderful things your superhero can do for God.



In It:

"I have read of men of faith who have bravely fought till death, who now the crown of life are wearing. Then the thought comes back to me, can I not a soldier be like to those martyrs bold and daring?" Help me to be that daring! (From Songbook: Song 676)

Eat It: Mark 7:37

People were overwhelmed with amazement. 'He has done everything well,' they said. 'He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak.'

Read It:

One-year Bible Plan: Read Song of Songs 1-4, & Ephesians 6