

## Heroes

John 8:10-11

*Jesus straightened up and asked her, "Woman, where are they?" Has no one condemned you?"*

*"No one, sir," she said.*

*"Then neither do I condemn you," Jesus declared. "Go now and leave your life of sin."*

I knew a guy who was super good at sports. He was good at just about anything. We played softball in a summer league together. He was big. He lifted weights. He could powder that ball. We always loved it when we were behind and he got up to the plate with a couple men on. He would rise to the challenge and smack a homerun and we would run out to meet him crossing home plate, pat him on the back and cry out, "Way to go!" He was our hero. Except, his personal life was a mess.

We hear scriptures that tell us that we are more than conquerors (Rom 8:37) and that we are in a triumphant procession in Christ (I Cor 2:14). I like the quotable quip that goes like this, "We are victors not victims." So true! But where is this victory and who are today's heroes? I John 5:4 says, "Everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith."

Who are today's heroes? John says it is those who overcome the world. By that he means those who overcome a world mindset. Those who are developing a mind that is more consistent with what Jesus taught. Those who are faithful to their spouses, and honest at work. Those who do not try to fit in with or impress friends who are not living by Biblical standards. Those who are challenging their own status quo and overcoming fears that have held them captive. These are the real heroes.

I was watching a show on TV. They were lowering a man down into shark-infested waters to study them. The man had raw meat in his hands and the crystal clear water was teeming with sharks. How scared would you be? This man seemed to be fearless. For one reason: He was being lowered in a metal cage that the sharks could not penetrate. Folks, that is the shield that faith provides for us (Eph 6:16). Faith is the victory that helps us overcome the world and keep it from penetrating our hearts. When you are developing faith you can overcome sin! Do yourself a favor. Take your Bible concordance and do a little study on faith. You will be amazed at all the doors it opens for you and closes to your enemy.

You are in shark-infested waters. But do not fear. Take up the shield of faith and learn to overcome the world and sin and temptation. Be a hero!