

## LESSON SNAPSHOT

**BOTTOM LINE:**

Heroes always do what is right.

**OBJECTIVE:**

Kids will learn that a hero has to do what's right even when no one else will.

**KEY PASSAGE:**

1 Kings 22:6-28, Micaiah

**MEMORY VERSE:**

*"So the last will be first, and the first will be last." Matthew 20:16 NIV*

**SUMMARY:**

King Ahab wanted to go to war. He surrounded himself with false prophets who all told him that he would be successful in battle. Only the prophet Micaiah understood the truth and had the courage to speak it: King Ahab would fail.

**SIMPLE PRAYER:**

*Dear God,*

*Give us the courage to do what's right like Micaiah!*

*In Jesus' name,  
Amen*

## MEMORY VERSE

*"So those who are last will be first. And those who are first will be last." Matthew 20:16 (NirV)*

*"So the last will be first, and the first will be last." Matthew 20:16 (NIV)*

*"So those who are last now will be first then, and those who are first will be last." Matthew 20:16 (NLT)*

*"So the last shall be first, and the first last: for many be called, but few chosen." Matthew 20:16 (KJV)*

### **LARGE GROUP:**

Have the kids read the verse together. Read it normally, then in a whisper, then really, really loud!

### **SMALL GROUP:**

Teach half the kids the first half of the verse and teach the other half the second half of the verse. Go back and forth together, with each half of the group saying their part of the memory verse. Then switch!

## SKIT

### MICAIAH VS THE SUPER DOG

#### ITEMS NEEDED:

A "BibleCon" sign  
An autograph book

#### CHARACTER BREAKDOWN:

2M

#### CHARACTERS:

Ernie - A Bible fan  
Micaiah - A Bible hero

*The "Welcome to BibleCon" sign is on stage. Ernie enters with his autograph book. He looks down stage, up over the audience, as if looking at a menu board at a restaurant.*

ERNIE: Boy, I sure am hungry. I wonder what's good? Let's see. They have chicken tenders. I had that for dinner last night. Cheeseburger. That sounds good. And a super dog.

*Micaiah enters. He walks over and stands behind Ernie off to the side, looking at the menu board.*

ERNIE: I wonder what the super dog is? I mean it must be pretty good if they call it a super dog.

MICAIAH: No, not necessarily.

ERNIE: But it's called a super dog. Not just a hot dog.

MICAIAH: Well, if you want the super dog, order the super dog.

ERNIE: I think I will.

MICAIAH: But if you want my advice, and for some reason, nobody ever does, you'll order the cheeseburger.

# SKIT

ERNIE: Who are you? A guy from the burger company?

MICAIAH: No, no. Just a prophet who is used to being ignored.

ERNIE: You're a prophet? Oh let me guess. Daniel?

MICAIAH: Nope.

ERNIE: Isaiah? Ezekiel? No wait, Jeremiah!

MICAIAH: Not even close.

ERNIE: You're one of the minor prophets then. Let's see. Jonah? Haggai? Zechariah?

MICAIAH: I don't even have a book named after me. I'm just the one guy in King Ahab's court who wasn't afraid to stand up to him and say, "You're not obeying God."

ERNIE: Oh, I remember that story. You're... oh, what's the name?

MICAIAH: Micaiah.

ERNIE: Yeah!

MICAIAH: You really heard of me?

ERNIE: Actually, no.

MICAIAH: It's okay. I know I'm just a footnote in a much bigger story.

ERNIE: But you taught us a valuable lesson. We need to do what God tells us to do, even when no one else is doing it.

MICAIAH: Hey, that's not bad!

ERNIE: I have to admit, I struggle with that a lot. It's hard to obey God when everyone else is doing wrong.

MICAIAH: Tell me about it. Ahab hated me. The other prophets hated me. The queen really hated me. But I did what God asked.

ERNIE: That makes you a hero in my book. Speaking of which, can I get your autograph?

# SKIT

MICAIAH: Sure.

*Micaiah signs.*

ERNIE: Thank you.

MICAIAH: My pleasure.

ERNIE: So with you being a prophet, I guess you're recommending the cheeseburger because you see the future?

MICAIAH: No, I'm recommending the cheeseburger because I remember the past. I had the super dog for dinner yesterday, and I was in the bathroom all night.

ERNIE: I'm going to take your advice. I'm eating the cheeseburger.

MICAIAH: Wow. For once in my life, someone listened to me.

## OBJECT LESSON OR KIDS SERMON

### ITEMS NEEDED:

A set of pool balls

There are two types of balls in a set of billiard balls. Seven of the balls have colored stripes on them. Eight of the balls are solid colors. All of the balls are labeled with a number, one through fifteen. The numbers are different. The colors are different. Some are striped and some are solid. Yet it's clear they all belong together. They all fit in with each other.

Then, there's the cue ball. This ball has no stripe, no color, and no number. It's solid white. It stands out from the rest. It doesn't get racked in the triangle with the other balls. But what does this ball do? This is the ball that influences the others. One by one, shot by shot, it moves the other balls around the table and into the holes.

When we are willing to stand out, to be different, to be the only person doing what is right, God can use us to influence others. It's not easy to be the only one who is different, who doesn't just go with the flow, but when we stand for what's right, we can be a hero who sets someone on the right course.

## LARGE GROUP GAME

### DON'T SPILL THE POPCORN

#### ITEMS NEEDED:

Three large bowls of popcorn

#### INSTRUCTIONS:

Choose three players and give each one a giant bowl of popcorn. Have those three players line up on one wall of the room. Have all the other kids line up on the other wall. The three players with the popcorn bowls will race to be first to touch the other wall without spilling any popcorn, but they must dodge the “mob” that will be racing toward them. If one of the popcorn carriers reaches the other wall first before the mob reaches the other wall, they win. If all of the “mob” reaches the other wall first, they win.

#### VARIATION:

If you're prepared to do the clean up, add a wrinkle to the game - the mob will try to tip over the bowls of popcorn in the racers' hands.

#### WHAT'S THE POINT?

Heroes go against the flow if it means doing what is right.

## LARGE GROUP LESSON

**BOTTOM LINE:**

Heroes always do what is right.

**OBJECTIVE:**

Kids will learn that a hero has to do what's right even when no one else will.

**KEY PASSAGE:**

1 Kings 22:6-28

**INTRO:**

It's not always easy to be a hero, especially in the pages of comic books. For every good day, when you save the city and have people cheering your name, there are plenty of bad ones. Sometimes the bad guy gets away. Sometimes the hero loses out on something in their personal life because they were busy doing their hero's duty. And sometimes, the hero's the only one standing up for what's right.

One popular story that has been seen in print and on screen is the time when the Penguin, one of Batman's arch enemies, ran for mayor. The Penguin told the people he wanted to rid the city of crime. Because he himself was a super-criminal, he was able to make good on that process – eliminating all of his enemies so that he was the only crime boss in town.

The people of Gotham believed the Penguin. They saw him as a hero. And when Batman tried to warn the people the Penguin was up to no good, they ignored him. Batman refused to listen. He went against the flow. He exposed the Penguin's plans as a lie, and he stopped the Penguin from carrying through with his evil schemes.

As Bat fans, we all know the Penguin is evil. The people of Gotham may have forgotten the Penguin's previous capers, but we never did. It's easy for us to take Batman's side in this story and cheer for the real hero. In real life, it's not always easy. Sometimes we encounter people who are leading others down the wrong road. Sometimes we find ourselves in situations where everyone is doing what we know is wrong. There's a lot of pressure on us to conform, to go with the crowd. In those moments, it takes real courage to be the hero and do what is right.

I don't know if any of you have ever heard the name Micaiah. He was a prophet of God at a time when being a prophet of God was a dangerous job.



# LARGE GROUP LESSON

He lived during the reign of King Ahab, one of the wickedest kings in Israel's history. We read elsewhere in the Bible that Ahab had an on-going feud with a big name Bible hero, a prophet named Elijah, and that Ahab had imprisoned and murdered countless small time prophets just like Micaiah. Yet Micaiah was never afraid to speak the truth, as we will read in today's story.

## **READ 1 KINGS 22:6-28**

### **MAIN POINT:**

King Ahab doesn't hide his feelings when he talked about Micaiah. "I hate that guy! He never has anything good to say about me!" The truth is Ahab was a wicked king who disobeyed God constantly. Micaiah's messages of gloom and doom were nothing personal. He was a prophet of God who had to speak the truth. Ahab never did anything God wanted him to do, so as a prophet of God, Micaiah never had a good word to speak to Ahab.

Micaiah could have lied. He could have taken the easy way out and agreed with all of Ahab's yes men. He could have saved his own neck. Micaiah chose to go against the crowd. He did the right thing when no one else would. That makes him a true hero.

### **DRIVE IT HOME:**

I wish I could tell you that you guys will never face a situation like Micaiah's. If you haven't faced one already, you will in the coming years. There will be times when doing the right thing is not the cool thing. There will be temptations to break the rules, both at school and at home. In those moments you will feel alone. There will be no parent, no pastor, no one there to stand with you. Will you have the courage to stand up for God?

Truthfully, Micaiah had a friendly face in the crowd during this story. King Jehoshaphat was a good king who loved the Lord. He's the one who insisted that Micaiah be brought forward to speak. But this was probably the first time Micaiah ever had an ally in the crowd. Ahab lets Jehoshaphat know that Micaiah had been a pain in the neck for years, prophesying against him. Micaiah had great courage to stand up to such a wicked king, but truthfully, Micaiah did so for Ahab's own good. If Ahab had ever listened to Micaiah, he might have changed his life. He might have been saved!

Ahab ignored Micaiah to the end. If you read on, you'll see everything Micaiah spoke came true. Ahab disguised himself in battle and even sent Jehoshaphat out in front of him, hoping Jehoshaphat would be the king killed in battle. Jehoshaphat survived, but Ahab did not. God knew where he was, and Ahab finally met his end on the battlefield.

Going against the flow isn't just something we do for ourselves. It's something we do for the people who aren't flowing with us. God can use us to set an example for others.

# LARGE GROUP LESSON

He can use us to give someone else the courage to stop following the crowd and do what is right. A hero is one who is brave enough to do what is right, even when no one else will, and if we are willing to stand against the crowd, we can be a hero to someone who just needs a little encouragement to do the right thing.

Micaiah is a hero because he did the right thing. He ignored Ahab's threats and refused to follow the crowd. Let's ask God to give us the courage of this lesser known hero so we can be a hero to someone else.

## **CLOSE WITH A SIMPLE PRAYER:**

*Dear God,*

*Give us the courage to do what's right like Micaiah!*

*In Jesus' name,  
Amen*

## SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (K-2ND)

### ICEBREAKER:

Pick a strange animal and tell me what kind of super power a hero would have if they were named after that animal. (Platypus Girl, Otter Man, etc.)

### MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:

#### Matthew 20:16

Teach half the kids the first half of the verse and teach the other half the second half of the verse. Go back and forth together, with each half of the group saying their part of the memory verse. Then switch!

### SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY:

Team up with another small group and play a few rounds of Red Rover.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

#### Read 1 Kings 22:6-28

Who was Ahab?

Why didn't Ahab like Micaiah?

What prophecy did Micaiah have for Ahab?

What makes Micaiah a hero?

What can we do to have the courage to do what's right when no one else will?

### SIMPLE PRAYER:

*Dear God,*

*Give us the wisdom to know what is right and the courage to do it.*

*In Jesus' name,  
Amen*

## SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (3-5TH)

### ICEBREAKER:

Pick a strange animal and tell me what kind of super power a hero would have if they were named after that animal. (Platypus Girl, Otter Man, etc.)

### MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:

#### Matthew 20:16

Teach half the kids the first half of the verse and teach the other half the second half of the verse. Go back and forth together, with each half of the group saying their part of the memory verse. Then switch!

### SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY:

Team up with another small group and play a few rounds of Red Rover.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

#### Read 1 Kings 22:6-28

Why didn't Ahab like Micaiah?

Why did Micaiah prophesy against Ahab?

What makes Micaiah a hero?

Why is it so hard to do what we know is right when no one else is doing it?

What can we do to have the courage to do what's right when no one else will?

### SIMPLE PRAYER:

*Dear God,*

*Give us the wisdom to know what is right and the courage to do it.*

*In Jesus' name,  
Amen*

## POWERPOINT REVIEW GAME

### TRUE OR FALSE

Ahab was a man of God.

FALSE

Ahab hated Micaiah.

TRUE

Micaiah was a weak person who followed the crowd.

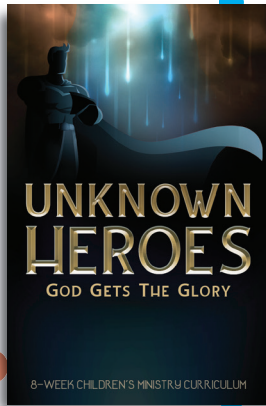
FALSE

Micaiah stood up to the king because he wanted to do what was right.

TRUE

God can give us the courage to do what is right, even if no one else is doing it.

TRUE



# MAKE IT STICK

5 Simple Ways You Can Make This Lesson Stick With your Kids

## Unknown Heroes Lesson 2

### THIS WEEK'S LESSON: MICAIAH



#### IN THE CAR:

Ask your child what they learned about this week on the drive home:

King Ahab wanted to go to war. He surrounded himself with false prophets who all told him that he would be successful in battle. Only the prophet Micaiah understood the truth and had the courage to speak it: King Ahab would fail. 1 Kings 22:6-28, Micaiah



#### HANGING OUT:

Make this week's lesson real:

Talk to your kids about a time when you had to do the right thing when no one else was doing it. How did you find the courage to stand for what's right?



#### AT DINNER:

Here are some great discussion starters:

- Why did Ahab hate Micaiah?
- How Did Micaiah show courage?
- How can we find the courage to stand up and do what's right when no one else is?



#### AT BEDTIME:

Quiz your child on this week's memory verse:

*"So the last will be first, and the first will be last." Matthew 20:16 NIV*



#### PARENT TIME:

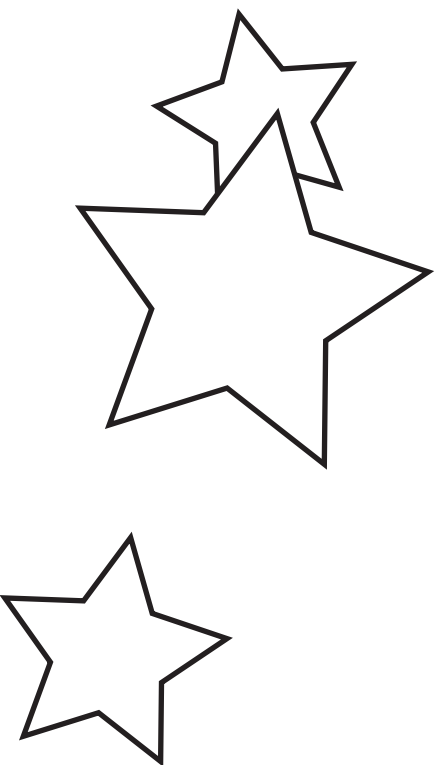
What you need to know:

It's not easy to do the right thing when no one else is doing the right thing. God can give us the wisdom to know what is right, and if we are willing to stand up, He will give us the courage to do so.

## CRAFT ACTIVITY

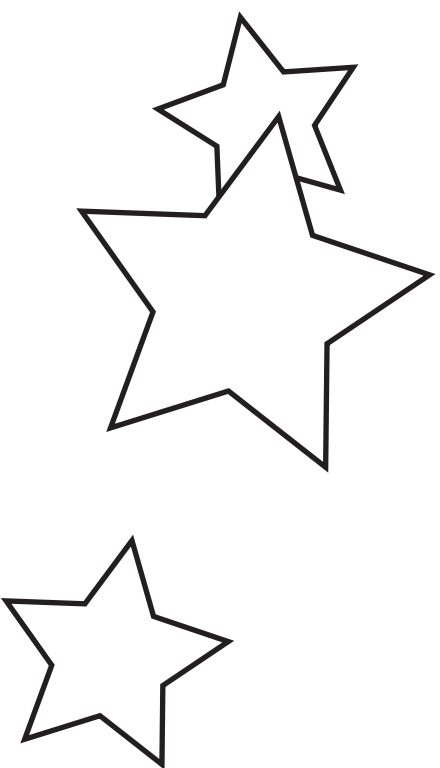
Have the kids draw and color Micaiah as a super hero. You can give them templates of a human shape to start with, or let them do it freehanded.

As an option to weekly drawings, you can have the kids work on one piece of artwork for eight weeks, in which they will draw all 8 heroes onto a comic book cover of their own design.



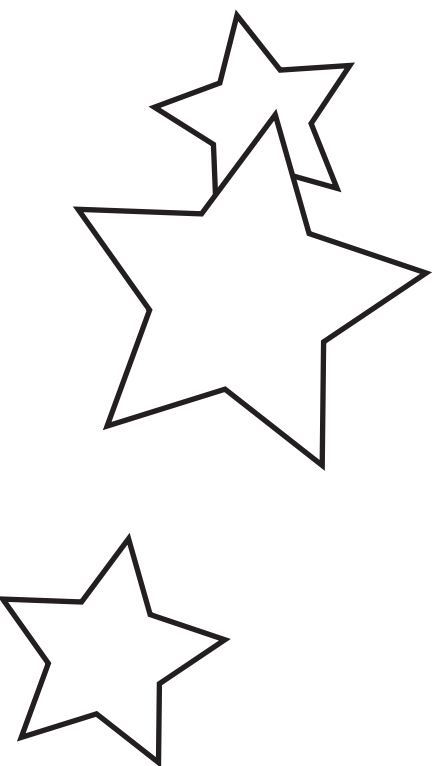
"So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

- Matthew 20:16 (NIV)



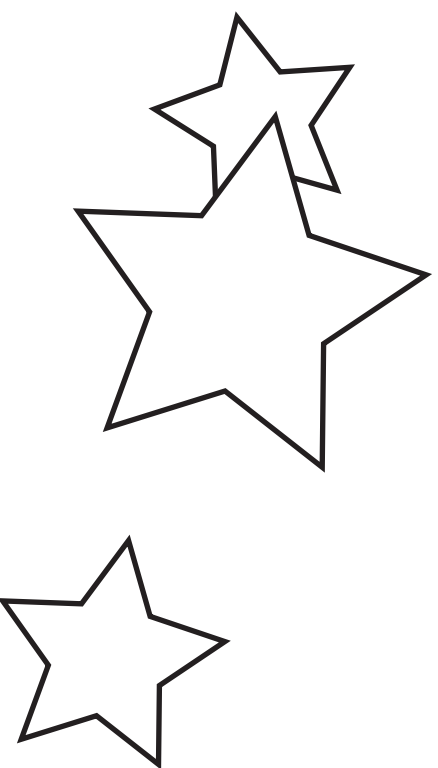
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