

**Service: Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2011 am**

**Series: Everyday Heroes**

John 17:13 & 19

Jesus prays that God will leave the disciples on this earth and guard them from the evil one.

Jesus gave us a mission. This prayer wasn't just for His disciples. It was for all believers who would come after them.

Often when we have tough things happening in our lives, we want to be delivered from the circumstances. We want a miracle to happen that takes the circumstances away. Healing of an illness or disease; miraculously receive a large sum of money to fix a financial crisis; a person who is making our life difficult to suddenly move to another country, etc.

Everyday heroes know that they have a purpose and that God will protect them.

Jesus said we would do what He did and greater. We tend to look for the sensational, the amazing. But often the greater things are all around us. It's all of us doing what we can where we are.

### **Interview with Desmond and Rebecca**

Desmond and Rebecca are both from Malaysia. They have been in the church for the past 8 years.

#### **Desmond**

Desmond's family are Buddhist. Desmond came to Australia to study at Uni. Through his association with Rebecca he started going to church and became a Christian after about 6 months.

When he became a Christian he was excited. But things didn't stop there. His first prayer was that his family would also become Christians. One of his sisters and one of his brothers also came to Tasmania to study at Uni and they have both become Christians.

His parents couldn't accept his decision at first. But they have noticed a difference in him that they say is a good thing.

## **Rebecca**

Rebecca's family is Christian. When Rebecca was 7 years old she made a decision. Was she going to just follow what her parents did and go to church because they did. Or was she going to make her own decision and find her own faith. She made a decision then to follow Jesus.

When she decided to come to Australia to study, she knew that God would be with her wherever she went. Through Rebecca God brought Desmond into His family.

### **Discussion question:**

**How can you be an everyday hero in your family or among your friends.**

## **SERMON – Grant Medwin**

How inconvenient would it be to be a superhero? Your life wouldn't be your own. It would be like being on call for everybody 24/7. You wouldn't be able to sit down to a meal (for example) without getting interrupted.

How inconvenient would it be to be an everyday hero? You have to engage with other people and get into their world.

### **Discussion question:**

**What does it take to have other people think highly of you?**

**What does it take to be someone's hero? To have them think you are awesome?**

When other people call on us for help, we often would prefer to be somewhere else. We help them because of our love and care for them. Grant gave the example of helping a neighbour in the middle of the night, whose house was under threat of being burnt down. It turned out that threat happened six months ago and she was having a "flashback moment". But she needed someone who could reassure and support her until her "moment" passed. He would much prefer to have been in bed asleep.

As a parent, a spouse, a friend, a workmate, etc we have the opportunity to be an everyday hero. But we need to get past our own insecurities. We need to get on our knees and keep in communion with God.

How inconvenient is it being a disciple of Jesus? When Jesus says “Follow Me”, is that inconvenient?

Look at just some of the things Jesus told His disciples to do.

Love your enemies  
Seek after righteousness  
Fast  
Go make disciples and baptise them  
Do not judge  
Honour your father and mother  
Love one another  
Do not worry  
Pray  
Read bible  
Take up your cross

**Discussion question:**

**How do these things fit into your life, your schedule, your circumstances?**

The road to destruction is wide and easy, like a multi lane freeway.  
The road to eternal life is narrow and rocky, like a goat track. It's difficult and inconvenient.

Luke 14:28

Salvation is free. But discipleship costs us everything.

**What are you willing to give to be an everyday hero?**

The Christian life is a sacrifice. We need to follow God's will, not our own. Are we too busy to be a disciple? “OK God, I'll do it next week!” That doesn't work.

When we are busy being a disciple, we need to spend more time with God. Otherwise we are operating in our own strength and it doesn't work. We'll crash and burn!

Matt 26:39

Jesus counted the cost.

But, despite the cost, he submitted to His Father's will rather than His own will.

Matt 10:39

It is natural to seek safety and security. We want to make sure that all our needs are covered and we're secure.

But those who lose their life for Jesus's sake will find it.

Sow your life into God's ministry and you'll find it. The challenge is to take a risk.

**Discussion question:**

**What areas of your life do you seek security in and you find it difficult to trust to God?**

Luke 8

Jesus was going to heal a sick girl. When you're on a mission to help someone who's seriously ill, you don't waste any time. No stops on the way. But Jesus stopped His journey to address a person in the crowd who touched Him. He acknowledged the woman who had touched Him and acknowledged the risk she took.

Take a risk on Jesus!