

God Wants to Use You What Defines a Hero?

I. Introduction

- A. A hero sacrifices for others.
- B. God doesn't force us to sacrifice.
- C. Romans 6:13 (NLT) *Do not let any part of your body become an instrument of evil to serve sin. Instead, give yourselves completely to God, for you were dead, but now you have new life. So, use your whole body as an instrument to do what is right for the glory of God.*
 - 1. God wants to use you for His purpose.
 - 2. In the hands of God, you can make a difference in this world.
 - 3. It requires sacrifice

II. Why Sacrifice for God's Purpose?

- A. God already sacrificed for you.
 - 1. John 3:16 (NIV) *"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."*
- B. Genuine love is always sacrificial.
 - 1. Ephesians 5:2 (NLT) *Live a life filled with love, following the example of Christ. He loved us and offered himself as a sacrifice for us, a pleasing aroma to God.*
- C. It's what we were created to do.
 - 1. Ephesians 2:10 (NIV) *For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.*
 - 2. Matthew 10:39 (NLT) *"If you cling to your life, you will lose it; but if you give up your life for me, you will find it."*
- D. God will reward us.
 - 1. Hebrews 6:10 (NIV) *God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them.*
 - 2. Mark 10:29-30 (NIV) ²⁹*"Truly I tell you," Jesus replied, "no one who has left home or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for me and the gospel³⁰ will fail to receive a hundred times as much in this present age: homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and fields—along with persecutions—and in the age to come, eternal life."*

III. How to Live a Sacrificial Life

- A. Romans 12:1 (NIV) *Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.*
- B. Help other people.
 - 1. Matthew 25:37-39 (NIV) ³⁷*"Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink?'³⁸When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you?³⁹When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?"*
 - 2. Matthew 25:40 (NIV) *"The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'"*
- C. Give sacrificially.
 - 1. Proverbs 3:9-10 (NIV) ⁹*Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops;¹⁰ then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine.*
 - 2. Matthew 6:21 (NIV) *"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."*
- D. Share the Good News with other people.
 - 1. Hebrews 13:15 (NLT) *Therefore, let us offer through Jesus a continual sacrifice of praise to God, proclaiming our allegiance to his name.*
- E. Pray for opportunity.

- I. Matthew 7:7 (NIV) *"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you."*

IV. Conclusion