

JULY DEVOTIONAL: *God's Superheroes*

When we hear the word **superhero**, we usually picture someone with extraordinary strength, amazing abilities, and maybe even a cape!

Superheroes can fly. They can leap over buildings. They have super strength, super speed, X-ray vision—or some other incredible ability that the rest of us certainly don't have.

But when you read the Bible, you discover something interesting about God's superheroes. They really weren't very “super” at all.

They were ordinary people with weaknesses, fears, failures, and problems—people a lot like us. What made them extraordinary wasn't who **they** were. It was the God who worked through them.

Think about it:

Abraham thought he was too old.

Jacob was a deceiver.

Moses didn't think he could speak well enough.

Gideon was afraid.

Rahab had a reputation.

Jeremiah thought he was too young.

David made some terrible choices.

Jonah ran away from God.

Matthew was a despised tax collector.

Peter spoke before he thought—and even denied knowing Jesus.

The Samaritan woman had a complicated past.

And Paul had once persecuted the very Christians he later spent his life serving.

Not exactly an A-list of superheroes, are they?

If we were choosing people to accomplish God's great plans, I'm not sure some of these folks would have made it past the first interview!

And yet, **God used them.**

He didn't wait until they had everything figured out. He didn't wait until they had perfect abilities or perfect circumstances.

He took ordinary, imperfect people who were willing to trust Him, and He did extraordinary things through them.

And that's good news for us. Because sometimes we can start believing that God does His best work through somebody else.

Someone younger.

Someone stronger.

Someone healthier.

Someone more talented.

Someone who knows the Bible better.

Someone who hasn't made as many mistakes.

Or maybe we think, *I had my chance. I've done my part. Surely God doesn't have anything important left for me to do.*

But when we look at Scripture, we see over and over again that God has never been limited by the limitations of the people He chooses.

Abraham was an old man when God fulfilled His promise to him.

Moses was around 80 years old when God called him to lead the Israelites out of Egypt.

And when Moses told God all the reasons he wasn't the right man for the job, God didn't say, "You know, Moses, you make some excellent points. I'll find somebody younger!"

God essentially told Moses, "I'll be with you." And that made all the difference. Maybe we've been asking the wrong question.

Instead of asking, "Am I capable enough for God to use me?"

Maybe the better question is, "Is God capable enough to use someone like me?" And the answer to that question is absolutely **YES!**

In 2 Corinthians 12:9 NIV, God says:

"My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness."

Isn't that wonderful?

God doesn't just use us **in spite of** our weaknesses. Sometimes our weaknesses become the very place where His strength is most clearly seen.

Maybe that's one of the greatest lessons we can learn from the heroes of the Bible:

You don't have to be super for God to use you. You just have to be willing.

Whatever your age, whatever your past, whatever your limitations, God isn't finished using you.

There are still people you can encourage.

There are still prayers you can pray.

There are still people you can serve.

There are still younger people who need the wisdom you've gained through years of experience.

There are still lonely people who need a friend.

There are still hurting people who need someone to notice them.

There are still stories of God's faithfulness that only **you** can tell.

And there are still things God may be asking you to do that you haven't even thought of yet.

Being one of God's superheroes doesn't mean doing something that makes the evening news.

Sometimes being a hero means making a phone call.

Sending a card.

Praying faithfully for someone.

Serving when nobody notices.

Giving generously.

Lifting the spirits of someone who is discouraged.

Telling a child or grandchild what God has done in your life.

Or simply noticing someone who needs a little kindness and doing something about it.

The heroes of the Bible weren't superheroes because they had extraordinary abilities.

They were ordinary people who trusted an extraordinary God.

And the same extraordinary God who worked through Abraham, Moses, David, Peter, and Paul is still at work today.

Through ordinary people.

Through imperfect people.

Through people with a past.

Through people with limitations.

Through people of every age.

Through people like you and me.

So maybe we don't need a cape after all.

Maybe all we really need is a willing heart that says:

“Here I am, God. Use me.”

Because you don't have to be super for God to use you.

You just have to be willing.

Closing Prayer: Lord, thank You that You still have a purpose for each of us.

Open our eyes to the people You place in our path. Help us not to become overwhelmed by all the things we cannot do, but to faithfully do the things we can. Show us where You can use us—someone we can encourage, help, love, or serve. And give us willing hearts to say yes when You do. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.