

## CouplesInBloom.com – What Heroes Do

September 2014

What makes a hero *a hero*? Definitions typically mention strength or bravery... but those are *not* specific enough. **A hero brings value, especially amongst de-valuation.** One Bible definition for hero is pierce from the margin with the violence of a lion ⇒ Isaiah 33:7. This is the heart of heroism: much needed positive among much negative from an unlikely time and place... yet accomplished in a completely thorough manner.

Good violence: unfortunately, we usually equate violence with negativity... which is exactly what the devil wants Christians to think. Matthew 11:12 ⇒ “From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of Heaven is taken by violence, and the violent take it by force.” Violence, and other strong things, gets a negative mental association when perverted by evil. Note that the best violent acts are sacrificial acts of love... many of which comprise our salvation. Jesus’ crucifixion and resurrection consisted of many pierce from the margin events done with the violence of a lion ... all with a focus of love:

- God born in a manger, communicating humility from His earthly birth ⇒ Luke 2:4-7.
- God being a normal human being like us, not drawing attention to self ⇒ Isaiah 53:2.
- God being crucified by those He created, and in a place He created ⇒ Luke 23:33.
- God publically triumphing over the evil authorities against us ⇒ Colossians 2:15.

Genesis 50:20 ⇒ “...you *thought* evil against me, but God *meant* it for good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save a great many people alive.” Both *thought* and *meant* above are the same Hebrew word which translates: *plait, interpenetrate, weave, fabricate, plot, think, regard, value, compute* ⇐ these are the specifics of *how* heroes do what they do!

Isaiah 41:10 ⇒ “Do not fear; for I am with you; **be not dismayed**; for I am your God. I will make you strong; yes, I will help you; yes, I will uphold you with the right hand of My righteousness.” That word *dismayed* means *nonplussed: bewildered, looking around for help*. **A hero is not dismayed / nonplussed!** **Negativity ignites a hero.** This power comes from God: “**be not dismayed**; for I am your God.”, and it strongly destroys evil.

Marriages need heroes. When the negativity of a spouse ignites the *interpenetrating valuing* process in a positive spouse (back towards a negative spouse), the devil flees ⇒ Ephesians 6:13; James 4:7. James 4:8 says ⇒ positive / negative double-mindedness is sin. **Negativity kills intimacy** ⇒ Proverbs 16:28. Therefore: what will your next negative marriage situation prompt you to do: **ignite a hero** or **kill intimacy**?

Heroes are easy to love, because they love first ⇒ 1 John 4:19. **Do you want to be loved by your spouse? Really loved? Really, really loved? Really, really, really loved?** This works SO well that **GOD USES IT**... on us (⇒ 1 John 4:19, in case you didn’t look it up just now or have it memorized). We love God because HE is a HERO. Period.

**Your spouse’s negativities are your opportunities to be their hero, and to have them love you**... if you really, *really, really* want to be **loved** by them, that is. God even clues husbands in to this secret ⇒ Ephesians 5:25; but actually doing it is up to you.

Print this out, hang it up where you have to see it, and start doing **What Heroes Do.** ♥