

August 25, 2024

**EVERYDAY HEROS**

*Whatever you do in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus,  
giving thanks through Him to God the Father.*

Colossians 3:17

Here in America, we are surrounded with stories of heroism. We are inundated with superheroes, sports players, military officers, and small-town heroes. Enamored with the idea of defeating mighty foes and overcoming giant obstacles to save the day, we behold the mighty men and applaud.

But then we turn away to our everyday lives and mourn the glory that could have been ours. We wonder, When is it my turn?

We forget that all the best stories point back to the best story ever—that of Christ coming to earth as a man to live among us, bear our sorrows, die on our behalf, and forgive the sins of the world. We forget that He rose again, victorious over sin, death, and the devil, and sits on the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

We forget that God has included us in His work. We forget that the works of God done through mankind aren't found primarily in the mighty men of old, but in the faithfulness of the everyday person. The preaching of Paul would have failed to reach the nations if scores of new believers hadn't remained strong in the faith, established churches, funded his ministry, and sent out missionaries of their own even after he had left them to start more churches. The Reformation of Luther would have failed to redeem the Church from her apostasy without the printers to spread his words, his friends saving him from certain death on the path from Worms, and everyday pastors taking up the call and spreading the Gospel anew to their congregations. Hauge's revival would have fallen flat without people inviting him into their homes, hosting small crowds in their living rooms, and fathers restarting catechetical instruction at their dinner tables. The AFLC would have died out long ago if it weren't for the faithfulness of the everyday believers coming to church on Sundays, supporting their pastors, raising their children in the faith, coming to the Annual Conference, and praying and supporting the ministries of the Association.

It's time to remember the calling with which we have been called (Ephesians 4:1). If you're waiting for your turn, know that it is now. "Whatever you do in word or deed, *do* everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father."

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AFLC Promotion for August is Parish Education