



St. Bart's Collective Worship Themes
Autumn 2: Heroes of the Faith & Christmas

Week	Memory verse	Monday Whole School Worship	Tuesday Songs of Worship	Wednesday Lower School in Class Upper School together	Thursday Lower School together Upper School in Class	Friday Class Reflection
	<i>'The Lord hates liars, but is pleased with those who keep their word.'</i> Proverbs 12:22	Daniel 6 Daniel's Integrity		Judges 13-16 Samson (Before kings ruled Israel, "Judges" were in charge. Samson drew his strength from God – cutting his hair was a symbol of putting himself before God and relying on his own abilities. Yet, God's forgiveness is available and He can still use us if we turn back to him – for his purposes. Samson may have died serving God's plan but because he was friends with God again this wasn't necessarily the end for him as he would be with God in heaven.)	1 Samuel 17 David and Goliath (David took his courage and strength from God. Even when everyone thought he was too weak and incapable, God used him. We have God's resources to call on too when we trust in him.)	What links Daniel, Samson and David? What do they have in common? How are we like them in character? Do you know any other people (in the Bible or not) who show good character? How do you know what they are like inside?
	<i>'What a record all of these have won by their faith! Yet they did not receive what God had promised, because God had decided on an even better plan for us. His purpose was that only in company with us would they be made perfect.'</i> Hebrews 11:39-40	Who are heroes? Review Bible Heroes looked at so far this term and point ahead. When we look at Bible heroes we must consider God as the overarching hero. What do we find out about God and his people?		Genesis 24 Rebekah at the well (1 Peter 3:3-4) This part of the story is all about God working his purpose out and people trusting in Him. We see Rebekah's character shine through straight away when she meets Abraham's servant at the well. God's hand is clearly on the whole situation and she complements Isaac perfectly.	Matthew 14:22-33 Peter walks on water Despite Peter getting to know Jesus pretty well, he struggles with trusting him when his worldly experience says one thing but Jesus says another. How can he walk on water? He is an experienced fisherman and "knows" he will sink. Yet he instinctively wants to trust Jesus and steps out. Only when he is distracted does he begin to sink. When he is focused on Jesus he is able to do something amazing!	What do Rebekah and Peter have in common? How do they differ? Think about how they trust God with difficult, life changing decisions. What can we learn from them about dealing with our own decisions?
	<i>'The greatest love you can have for your friends is to give your life for them.'</i> John 15:13	What do heroes sacrifice? Why do we have Remembrance Day?		Jonah 1&2 Jonah disobeys God God calls Jonah to preach to the people of Nineveh and tell them to change their ways. Jonah doesn't think they will and he runs away only to be eaten by a huge fish (not a whale!). It is inside this fish that he is sorry and cries out to God. God has not forgotten him, even when Jonah has disobeyed him.	Jonah 3&4 Jonah obeys God Jonah is forced to confront his poor decision not to follow God's plan for him. God is completely in control and he will always fulfil his plan. Jonah didn't know best and God was proven right but Jonah was still angry.	In the story of Daniel, he was asked to do the wrong thing but did right. How is this different to Jonah? How can we call Jonah a hero? Heroes are not perfect. Who else is the hero in this story? God still uses imperfect people.

	<p><i>'He said to them, "We will never find a better man than Joseph, a man who has God's spirit in him.".'</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Genesis 41:37-38</i></p>	<p>Genesis 37, 39 Joseph's dreams and the trouble he gets into</p>		<p>Genesis 40&41 Joseph and the dreams of others</p> <p>Even in prison, Joseph is put in charge. He is still clearly in God's care. Joseph's interpretation of the dreams of the other prisoners come true – and so he comes before the king where Joseph is elevated to an even higher position.</p>	<p>Genesis 42-45 Joseph and his family restored</p> <p>The King's dreams are coming true as God over-rules the whole situation. Now Joseph's original dreams come true as his family bow down to him.</p>	<p>Reviewing the whole story of Joseph, what changed from the beginning to the end? His circumstances? His status? His attitude and character? What do you think Joseph learned? What can we learn from him?</p>
	<p><i>"So the Lord was with Joshua, and his fame spread through the whole country."</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Joshua 6:27</i></p>	<p>Exodus 3-5 Moses before Pharaoh</p>		<p>Exodus 14 Escape from Egypt</p> <p>Despite God's promise and clear guidance, the people are afraid. They constantly worry and need Moses to calm and guide them. He reminds them that they are under God's care and protection.</p>	<p>Joshua 6 Joshua and Jericho</p> <p>In human terms, defeating Jericho with a band of musicians is an impossible task but Joshua has complete trust in God and leads the people in obedience.</p>	<p>Both Moses and Joshua faced seemingly impossible odds. What was it about them that meant that they won through? What problems did they face? How did the people they led react?</p>
	<p><i>'The Lord has filled my heart with joy; how happy I am because of what he has done! I laugh at my enemies; how joyful I am because God has helped me!'</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>1 Samuel 2:1</i></p>	<p>Esther The Queen Saves the King and the People (Also ref Genesis 1&2)</p>		<p>Acts 16: 16-40 Paul escapes from prison</p> <p>Paul and his friend Silas has been locked up again for speaking out for Jesus. Despite the beatings they received they still trusted that God would rescue them. They continued to talk about Jesus once they were out of prison, unafraid of the consequences.</p>	<p>1 Samuel 1 & 2:1-11 Hannah's Heartache</p> <p>Despite being loved, for years Hannah was misunderstood, treated unfairly and must have been miserable. It was when Hannah changed her focus onto God, rather than herself, she saw the answers to her prayers.</p>	<p>Esther and Paul both spoke up knowing the consequences could be serious. What prompted them to do so? What makes Hannah a hero? All three put their lives and futures in God's hands and He honours that.</p>
	<p><i>'Mary said, "My heart praises the Lord; my soul is glad because of God my Saviour, for he has remembered me, his lowly servant! From now on all people will call me happy.'</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Luke 1:46-48</i></p>	<p>Luke 1:26-38 Mary</p>		<p>Luke 1 Zechariah</p> <p>Zechariah was an important man who is given great news. Yet he still doubts in the face of God's clear message. What a contrast to Mary. He learns his lesson and is obedient, naming his son "John".</p>	<p>Matthew 1:18-25 Joseph</p> <p>Joseph could have made a fuss and disgraced Mary. He didn't; he stood by her. He followed God's instruction to him and named the baby "Jesus".</p>	<p>Think about the obedience of Mary, Zechariah and Joseph. How did they each react to the news God gave them? What did they learn? How can we learn from them?</p>
	<p><i>'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace on earth to those with whom he is pleased!'</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Luke 2:14</i></p>	<p>Luke 2:1-20 The Shepherds</p>		<p>Who is the hero at Christmas? How can Jesus be a hero if he is just a baby? What was His purpose?</p>	<p>Christmas Service at Church.</p>	