

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

"OUR BELOVED BARNABAS"

International Sunday School Lesson
For March 2, 1952.

Memory Selection: "He was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith."—Acts 11: 24.

Lesson Text: Acts 4: 36-37; 9: 26-27; 11: 19-26; 13: 1-3.

One of the finest compliments one can pay any man is to describe him as "a good man." The character about whom we study this week was just such a man, with the additional attributes that he was "full of the Holy Spirit and of faith." This man was Barnabas, whose original name was Joseph. He was a Jew, of the tribe of Levi, to which God had assigned special duties in the care and management of the Temple.

Since Barnabas was a resident of the island of Cyprus, it is not likely that he was able to exercise those privileges. It is probable that he had heard the gospel while visiting in Jerusalem, attending one or the other of the various Jewish feasts. In any case, he was a believer and took his place in the work of the church at Jerusalem. His consecration and spirit of helpfulness was so fine that the apostles changed his name from Joseph to Barnabas, which means "Son of encouragement" (Acts 4: 36 RSV).

There were many needy people in the early church, partly because many of them had lost their means of livelihood and sometimes their property when they renounced Judaism and became followers of Christ. It was the custom at that time that all believers would pool their resources in order to share in the task of taking care of those in need. Barnabas, evidently among the wealthier group, sold a piece of land and brought the entire proceeds to the apostles, to be used for the common good. This was one way Barnabas had of showing his gratitude to God for the great blessing which had come into his life.

While Barnabas was in Jerusalem, at a later date, he learned with dismay that the apostles were suspicious of a man who had come to join them. This man had been their worst enemy and persecutor but now affirmed that he was a believer. Barnabas recognized the man as Saul, whom he knew very well, for he had heard of his conversion on the road to Damascus and knew how Saul had boldly preached in the city of Damascus. Therefore, he spoke to the apostles, defending Saul and supporting him. Had it not been for Barnabas, Saul might not have found an open door anywhere in the city. So highly did the apostles think of Barnabas, they did not question him one moment but accepted Saul immediately as their fellow laborer.

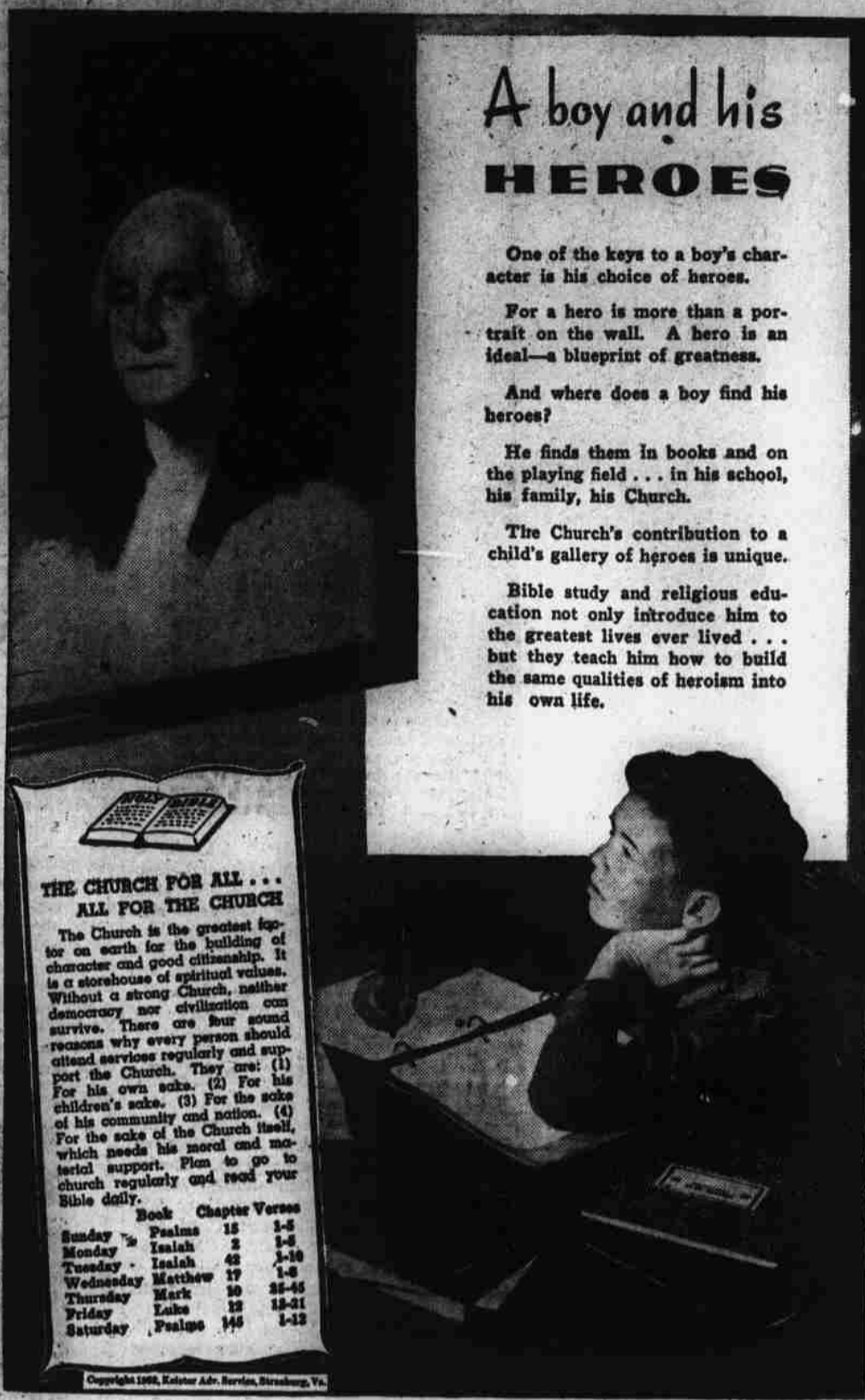
A third incident, related in Acts, shows how well Barnabas lived up to the meaning of his new name. Scattered by persecutions in Palestine, some of the believers traveled as far as Antioch in Syria. Living among the Gentiles there, these Jews became more liberal in their attitude toward the Gospel and did not share many of the prejudices of their brother Jews who, continued to live in Jerusalem. So they began to preach the gospel to these Gentiles and many were converted.

The news of this action soon got back to the church at Jerusalem and the brethren there became very disturbed over this development. They still clung to the idea that Jesus was a Jewish Savior and for the Jews alone. So, desiring to have an on-the-scene report of the situation, they sent Barnabas to make an investigation. They could not have chosen a better person for the job, for, instead of criticizing them, Barnabas "was glad and exhorted them all, that with pureness of heart they would cleave unto the Lord."

It is interesting to note that it was in this connection that Luke describes Barnabas as a "good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith." Led by the Spirit, Barnabas was glad that the Gospel was being preached to and accepted by the Gentiles. He decided to remain and help with the work. Realizing the immensity of the task, however, he thought of Saul, who had returned to his home in Tarsus to await God's call. The call came when Barnabas asked him to assist him in the work at Antioch. So, to Barnabas goes the credit of launching Saul on his great career as a missionary, through which, as Paul the Apostle, he carried the gospel to the farthest part of the then known world.

So rapid was the growth of the church at Antioch that these Christians decided to share the good news with others. They began to look around for like-minded persons to send into the pagan world as their messengers. (Continued on Page Two)

BE A BETTER
CITIZEN!
GO TO SOME
CHURCH
NEXT SUNDAY



A boy and his HEROES

One of the keys to a boy's character is his choice of heroes.

For a hero is more than a portrait on the wall. A hero is an ideal—a blueprint of greatness.

And where does a boy find his heroes?

He finds them in books and on the playing field... in his school, his family, his Church.

The Church's contribution to a child's gallery of heroes is unique.

Bible study and religious education not only introduce him to the greatest lives ever lived... but they teach him how to build the same qualities of heroism into his own life.

THE CHURCH FOR ALL... ALL FOR THE CHURCH

The Church is the greatest factor on earth for the building of character and good citizenship. It is a storehouse of spiritual values. Without a strong Church, neither democracy nor civilization can survive. There are four sound reasons why every person should attend services regularly and support the Church. They are: (1) For his own sake. (2) For his children's sake. (3) For the sake of his community and nation. (4) For the sake of the Church itself, which needs his moral and material support. Plan to go to church regularly and read your Bible daily.

Day	Book	Chapter	Verses
Sunday	Psalms	15	1-5
Monday	Isaiah	2	1-5
Tuesday	Isaiah	43	1-10
Wednesday	Matthew	17	1-8
Thursday	Mark	10	35-45
Friday	Luke	12	12-21
Saturday	Psalms	145	1-12

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Perquimans Church Services

HERTFORD BAPTIST CHURCH
C. W. Duling, Pastor
Sunday School, 9:45 A. M.
Morning Worship, 11:00 o'clock.
Evening Worship, 8 o'clock.
Mid-week Services, Wednesday at 8 P. M.

BETHLEHEM CHURCH OF CHRIST
Joe Brickhouse, Pastor
First Sunday
11 A. M. and 8 P. M.

BURGESS BAPTIST CHURCH
Colon Jackson, Jr., Pastor
Church services second and fourth Sundays at 11 A. M.
Sunday School at 10:00 A. M.
Church service 7:45 P. M. second and fourth Sundays.

PERQUIMANS CHARGE CHURCHES

H. M. Jamieson, Pastor
First Sunday:
New Hope Church, 11:00 A. M.
Oak Grove Church, 7:00 P. M.
Second Sunday
Winfall Church, 11:00 A. M.
Cedar Grove Church, 10 A. M.
Woodland Church, 7:00 P. M.
Third Sunday
Oak Grove Church, 11:00 A. M.
New Hope Church, 7:00 P. M.
Fourth Sunday
Cedar Grove Church, 11:00 A. M.
Woodland Church, 10 A. M.
Winfall Church, 7:00 P. M.
Fifth Sunday
Woodland Church, 11:00 A. M.
Prayer Meeting each Wednesday at Winfall Church, 7:00 P. M.

ANDERSON'S METHODIST CHURCH

R. M. Gradeless, Pastor
Church School, 10:00 A. M.
Morning Worship, 11:00 A. M., second and fourth Sundays.

WOODVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH

James F. Burke, Pastor
Church Services on second and fourth Sundays at 11 A. M.
First and Third Sundays at 7:45 P. M.
Sunday School 9:45 A. M.

UP RIVER FRIENDS CHURCH

Elizabeth White, Pastor
Sunday School, 9:45 A. M.
Church Services, 11 A. M.
Christian Endeavor, 6:30 P. M.

BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Bennie Crawford, Pastor
Sunday School, 10 A. M.
Preaching first and third Sundays at 11 A. M.
Preaching second and fourth Sunday evening at 7:30.

PINEY WOODS FRIENDS CHURCH

No Pastor At Present
Sunday School, 10 A. M.
Morning worship—11:00 A. M.

WHITEVILLE GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Carl Bjork, Pastor
Sunday School, 11 A. M., every Sunday except third Sunday.
Church services every third Sunday at 3 P. M.

HERTFORD METHODIST CHURCH

A. L. Chaplin, Pastor
Church School, 9:45 A. M.
Morning Worship, 11:00 o'clock.
Youth Fellowship, 6:45 P. M.
Evening Worship, 7:30 P. M.
Mid-week Fellowship, Wednesday at 7:30 P. M.

BAGLEY SWAMP PILGRIM

Coy S. Saunders, Pastor
Sunday School, 10:00 A. M.
Morning Worship, 11:00 o'clock.
Young People's Meeting, 6:30 P. M.
Evening Worship, 7:30 o'clock.
Mid-week Services, Thursday at 7:30 P. M.

HOLY TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Rev. Charles F. Wulf, Rector.
9:45 A. M., Church School, every Sunday.
9:00 A. M., Holy Communion, 1st Sunday.
8:30 A. M., Holy Communion, 2nd, 4th, 5th Sundays.
11:00 A. M., Holy Communion, 3rd Sunday.
11:00 A. M., Morning Prayer, 2nd, 4th, 5th Sundays.
10:00 A. M., Holy Communion, Fridays and Saints' Days.

BEREA CHURCH OF CHRIST

Walker Perry, Pastor
2nd and 4th Sunday at 10:30 A. M.
Morning worship on first and third Sundays at 11 A. M.
Evening worship first and third Sundays at 7:30 P. M.

CHAPPELL HILL BAPTIST CHURCH

A. E. Outlaw, Pastor
Sunday School, 2 P. M. every first Sunday.
Church Service 3 P. M. every first Sunday.
Sunday School at 11 A. M. every second, third and fourth Sunday.

Go To Church Your Church Any Church But Go