



ABOUT THE THEME

There are many heroes of the faith, people we admire and wish to be. However, there are even more ordinary people of faith—those doing what they can with what they have to make a difference. This summer, we'll dig deep into the bold and untold stories of those often overlooked in our biblical narratives, hoping these characters remind us that we all play a role in shaping God's story of redemption and grace.

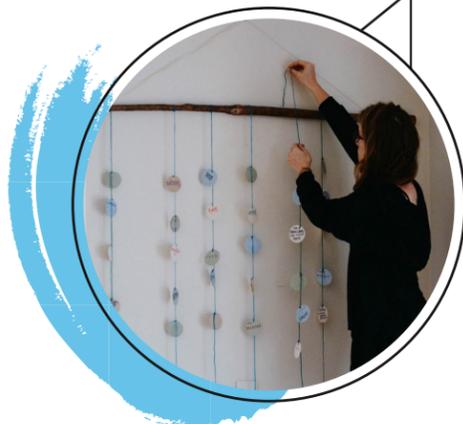
INCLUDED IN THE BUNDLE

- Visual art and written reflections inspired by each of these 16 faces of our faith
- A summer study journal (including visuals and written reflections for all 16 faces of our faith) for you to print and distribute to your community

THE CHARACTERS



- **Adam & Eve** (*Gen. 2*)
- **Puah & Shiphrah** (*Exodus 1*)
- **The daughters of Zelophehad** (*Numbers 27*)
- **Queen Vashti** (*Esther 1*)
- **Shadrach, Meshach, & Abednego** (*Daniel 3*)
- **Jonah** (*Jonah 4*)
- **Deborah** (*Judges 4-5*)
- **Mary Magdalene** (*Mark 16*)
- **Anna** (*Luke 2*)
- **Joseph of Arimathea** (*Luke 23*)
- **The thief on the cross** (*Luke 23*)
- **Judas Iscariot** (*Mark 14*)
- **The Ethiopian Eunuch** (*Acts 20*)
- **Eutychus** (*Acts 20*)
- **Lydia** (*Acts 16*)
- **Philemon** (*Philemon 1*)



WORSHIP SERIES IDEAS



We imagine you picking and choosing from these 16 stories to craft your own worship series in the order and duration that makes sense for your context. It's a customizable experience!

WORSHIP IDEAS



- Include the visual art and written reflections in your bulletin, or project them on screens.
- Use the visuals each week to incorporate visio divina (prompts included in bundle) into worship.
- Each week, invite a church member to share about someone who has shaped their own faith.
- Create a community art installation by setting up a table in the narthex with construction paper circles and sharpies. Invite people to write their favorite bible character or the name of an individual who has shaped their faith on each circle. Using fishing line, yarn, or ribbon, make a garland of the paper circles, and string them from a large branch or curtain rod, adding a new strand each week. As the series progresses, the paper banner will slowly grow, increasing in color and in names.

PROGRAMMING IDEAS



- Print & distribute the Faces of our Faith Study Journal to those who will be out of town for the summer as a way for them to stay connected.
- Use the Faces of our Faith Study Journal to guide a group discussion series.
- Hold a "Name with a Face" church event, similar to speed dating, where people sit across from one another. Invite members to share stories for a few minutes, then invite them to rotate seats and continue sharing with a new partner. Play music, propose silly questions, and encourage intergenerational activity.
- Curate a church summer blog where people submit stories about individuals in their lives who have shaped their faith development.

GUIDING QUESTIONS



As you shape the series, you may consider the following questions:

- How will you organize the series? Will you move from the Old Testament to the New Testament, or order them based on weekly sub-themes?
- How does each character use their voice/actions/skills/situation to make change?
- How does each character play a role in the overarching story of God's redemption and grace?
- Who are the faces of faith in your local context you wish to lift up? You may consider pairing each biblical character with a non-biblical face of our faith (think: theologians, public figures, activists, artists, innovators, leaders, etc.) to highlight other figures who have made a difference.