

## HERO-MAKER WEEK 5: WINNING LIKE A HERO-MAKER

(Preacher – Jon Ferguson, Community Christian Church, Chicago – 15<sup>th</sup> March 2020)

### Introduction

Community Christian Church in Chicago have produced an excellent preaching resource called ‘Hero-Maker’. They have kindly allowed us to make audio copies of the sermons, so please get in contact with us at Transform Widnes if you would like a copy. There is also book ‘Hero-Maker’ that accompanies the series and goes into greater depth with the themes. This can be purchased at [https://www.amazon.co.uk/Hero-Maker-ITPE-ExponentialFerguson/dp/0310588936/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?dchild=1&keywords=hero-maker&qid=1595422883&sr=8-1](https://www.amazon.co.uk/Hero-Maker-ITPE-ExponentialFerguson/dp/0310588936/ref=sr_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=hero-maker&qid=1595422883&sr=8-1) if you or someone on your behalf would like to buy this.

### Summary of Teaching Video – Week 5

How competitive are you? What are the things that you love to compete for? Or love to keep score of? Some of you reading this will have been keen sports players or maybe you love winning at board games. Maybe you always compete to have the last word! One of the things that our culture tells us is that in order to thrive in life, generally, we need to compete. The theory of evolution is of course the idea of the ‘survival of the fittest’. Whether or not we are fully onboard with the theory – we just need to look around and even within ourselves to know that competition can be driving factor of life.

### Jesus’ Definition of ‘Winning’

There is nothing wrong with wanting to thrive to do our best in life. This hero-maker series has however tried to continually remind us that there’s more to life than us being the ‘winner’, the ‘hero’. Jesus calls us to apprentice others to his way of life and teaching, to be hero-makers. Two of his early followers, brothers James and John, ask Jesus if they can be his right and his left hand men. They wanted to have power and be the heroes. Jesus’ response to them as it is to us is really challenging. Here’s how we defines ‘winning’ in life:

‘You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles (non-Jewish rulers were at that time in charge of Israel) lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. **Not so with you.** Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your **servant**, and whoever wants to be first must be **slave** of all.’ (Mark 10:42-44)

In the world of Jesus and even today, culture tells us that the celebrity, the powerful, the strong is to be celebrated. Jesus disagrees. To thrive in life – to win – servicing is the way we do this. Pastor Jon tells us that ‘Winning like a hero maker requires a shift from counting my

own successes to counting the successes of others.' Real greatness is celebrating, elevating and encouraging others to step into what God has in store for them. As we become hero-makers and take the spotlight of ourselves, we will be able to live with more freedom, security and compassion and less fear, comparison, anxiety and envy.

### What Does that Look Like?

Think about what it would look like shift from serving ourselves to serving others in these areas of life?

Time/ Resources/ Work/ Home/ Faith/ Relationships

Have a think about an area of your life or a relationship in your life and write/type in this box, what it would like to shift from a 'me' oriented perspective to an 'others' shaped perspective. Feel free to use the box below. Maybe use the 'me' box to say how things are now and the 'others' box to say how you would like things to change.

ME	OTHERS

### Weekly Practice Number 5 –

- It's time to win like a hero-maker.
- How could you put into practice this week and the weeks to come the shifts you have put in the box above?
- Let's pray together:  
*'Lord transform my ambition.  
 Help me to measure what you measure.  
 And to realise that I'm called,  
 Not to be a hero, but a hero maker.  
 Amen*