

ASBURY AT THE MOVIES

SERMON NOTES

Week 4 July 28, 2024

"The Super Mario Bros. Movie"

*Romans 12:10; Hebrews 13:1, Genesis 1:27, I John 3:1;
John 14:16-17; I Samuel 17:39-49. Psalm 56:3*

I. Brotherly Love

- A. _____ and Luigi have a special bond and love for each other.
- B. Just like there is love that is present in a biological family, love should be present in a _____ family.

II. Label Maker

- A. Mario feels _____ because of what others have said about him.
- B. Only your Heavenly Father can _____ you.

III. Preparing for the Journey

- A. Princess Peach is going to prepare Mario for the _____ to save his brother.
- B. There are three things we learn from Mario about being successful on our _____ journey.
The need of a mentor. 2) The Holy Spirit. 3) Persistence.

IV. Agape Love

- A. Mario risks his life to _____ his brothers and others.
- B. _____ love is a selfless and unconditional love that's willing to do anything for another person.

V. Facing Your Giants

- A. Mario and Luigi are able to defeat Bowser with the help of the Super _____ which makes them temporarily invincible.
- B. The way we overcome our _____ is the same way David took down Goliath.
- C. 1) Past. 2) Prayer. 3) Priority. 4) Passion. 5) Persistence.

Things I Would Like to Remember About This Message



ASBURY DAILY STUDY GUIDE *July 15-20, 2024*

The Super Mario Bros. Movie is a 2023 animated adventure comedy film based on Nintendo's Mario video game franchise. The film features an origin story for the brothers Mario and Luigi, Italian-American plumbers who are separated after being transported to a fantasy world and become entangled in a battle between the Mushroom Kingdom - led by Princess Peach - and the Koopas - led by Bowser. So what does this movie have to do with scripture?

Monday: Galatians 6:1-10, Romans 12:10, Hebrews 13:1 (Brotherly Love)

Scholar N. T. Wright said Paul's counsel "says the public image of the Christian church should be of a gentle, gracious community." It should not be a place "which squashes sensitive souls and offends those who are by nature quiet and reserved." * Does it take more inner strength to be gentle or to lash out and hurt those who frustrate you, disagree with you, or do things you believe are wrong? When have you seen this kind of gentleness uplift you or someone else?

Tuesday: Genesis 1:27; 1 John 3:1 (Labels)

We all wear labels. Many of the labels we wear were placed on us by others—parents, siblings, friends, teachers, coaches, or coworkers. But what if we're carrying around the wrong labels? Who has the right to label you? Who are you going to allow to label you? Who knows best how to label you? Labels create expectations and expectations influence the direction of our lives.

Wednesday: John 14:16-18, 26-27 (The Holy Spirit)

Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you. My peace I give you. I give to you not as the world gives. Don't be troubled or afraid" (verse 27). Have you ever found the kind of "peace" the world offers leaving you feeling empty and purposeless? How can opening your life to the gift of the Holy Spirit give you the greater, deeper peace Jesus promised?

Thursday: Philippians 2:1-11 (Sacrificial Love)

Paul reminds us that we need to adopt the attitude of Christ and think of others first. Who do you need to do a better job of serving? What would it look like to leverage your influence on that person's behalf?

Friday: 1 Samuel 17:1-11, Psalm 56:3 (Facing our Giants)

When have you had to face a "giant" problem or person? Were your feelings (whether you showed them or not) more like those of Saul and the army, or like David's? What role, if any, did your trust in God play in the way you faced the daunting situation? Did you learn anything that helps you with giant problems or persons you face today, or may face in the future?

MOVING FORWARD

The Super Mario Bros. Movie points us to the scriptural themes of brotherly and agape love, the importance of our identity in Christ, preparation for our spiritual journeys, and overcoming our giants. Sometimes in our lives we are confronted by giants like Bowser (debt, bad diagnosis, divorce etc.) And when we find ourselves overwhelmed with fear of these giants we need to remember the words of King David who defeated Goliath, "When I am afraid, I put my trust in you."

Answers to the sermon notes: IA) Mario, B) spiritual. IIA) small, B) label. IIIA) journey, IIIB) spiritual. IVA) save, B) Agape. VA) star, B) giants.

* Wright, N.T., Paul for Everyone, The Prison Letters: Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, and Philemon, p. 130-131 (The New Testament for Everyone). Westminster John Knox Press. Kindle Edition.