Billy Graham47Susanna WesleArgula von Grumbach49George WhitefiMary Jones51William WilberfAdoniram Judson53Richard WurmhJohn Knox55John Wycliffe	9rumbach 49 51 Jdson 53	9rumbach 49 51	Grumbach 49	47			Edward VI 43 Charles Wesley	Joni Eareckson Tada 41 William Tyndale	Fanny Crosby 39 Lilias Trotter	John Chrysostom 37 Hudson Taylor	George Washington Carver 35 C. T. Studd		31	29	John Bunyan 27 Selina, Countes:	Anne Bradstreet 25 Rembrandt	William and Catherine Booth 23 Robert Raikes	Connie ten Boom 21 Patrick	Thomas Barnardo 19 Rosa Parks	Johann Sebastian Bach 17 Florence Nightir	Gladys Aylward 15 John Newton	Augustine 13 George Müller	Brother Andrew II Hannah More	A note to parents and carers 9 Dwight L. Mood	Martin Luther	Contents Katie Luther
John Wesley Susanna Wesley George Whitefield William Wilberforce Richard Wurmbrand John Wycliffe	John Wesley Susanna Wesley George Whitefield William Wilberforce Richard Wurmbrand	John Wesley Susanna Wesley George Whitefield William Wilberforce	John Wesley Susanna Wesley George Whitefield	John Wesley Susanna Wesley	John Wesley	Cital las Masilan	Ohanide VI/Deldi	William Tyndale	Lilias Trotter	Hudson Taylor	C. T. Studd	Charles Spurgeon	Mary Slessor	Lord Shaftesbury	Selina, Countess of Huntingdon	Rembrandt	Robert Raikes	Patrick	Rosa Panks	Florence Nightingale	John Newton	George Müller	Hannah More	Dwight L. Moody	Martin Luther	Katie Luther

A note to parents and carers

There are loads of Christian biographies around for older children and adults, but almost none for younger children - yet it is never too early to introduce the next generation to some of the heroes of the faith. Here we meet fifty-two Christian men and women (one to read every week of the year ...) from all walks of life, who wanted to live for their "friend Jesus". There are missionaries and martyrs (although fewer martyrs than you might find in a book for older childreni), writers, reformers, politicians, preachers and poets. There are sporty people, arty people, brilliant people and very ordinary people. There are people from hundreds of years ago and people still living today. Some are very well known while some are almost unheard of. Jesus has always had, and always will have, friends in all shapes, sizes and colours, from all different countries and backgrounds. My hope and prayer is that, as you read about these remarkable men and women with your child, you will both realise that anyone who is "Jesus' friend" can do remarkable things for him - even you!

"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever."

Hebrews 13:8





"The LORD is my light and my salvation - whom shall I fear?
The LORD is the stronghold of my life - of whom shall I be afraid?"

Psalm 27:1

Brother Andrew

(1928-)

What do you like most about going to church? Bible stories? Singing? Meeting friends?

bid you know there are some countries in the world where Jesus' friends aren't allowed to meet together, or read the Bible, or tell other people about Jesus? When Brother Andrew found out how hard it was for people in those places to be Jesus' friends he wanted to help. Jesus' friends needed Bibles to read - but how could he get Bibles into those countries? He knew it would be difficult and he knew it would be dangerous - but he knew that his friend Jesus would look after him.

Time after time Andrew took cars stuffed with Bibles into countries where Bibles were not allowed. There were soldiers and spies and secret police; it was difficult; it was dangerous. Time after time Andrew's friend Jesus looked after him - and the Bibles! Time after time soldiers and spies and secret police didn't notice all the Bibles stuffed into the cars. Time after time carloads of Bibles reached Jesus' friends.

there are still lots where it is not safe at all. It is still difficult and dangerous to help Jesus' friends in those countries, but Brother Andrew and his friends are still helping - and their friend Jesus is still looking after them!

In some of those countries it is now safe to be Jesus' friends - but





"Do not remember the sins of my youth and my rebellious ways; according to your love remember me, for you, LORD, are good."

Psalm 25:7

Augustine (354-430)

Do you ever get told off by your teacher or by your mum? Do you sometimes not do what you are told? Some children find it easy to be good - some don*!!

Augustine didn't find it easy to be good. He enjoyed doing naughty things. His mother was Jesus' friend - but Augustine wasn't. He was having too much fun to bother with Jesus. He took things that weren't his. He didn't do what his mother told him. He thought this was funny. It made his mother sad. She asked Jesus to show Augustine that the things he did were wrong.

Augustine grew up. He still did naughty things. He still made his mother sad. She still asked Jesus to help. Sometimes Augustine felt bad - being naughty wasn't always fun - but he didn't want to stop just yet ...

Then, one day, he was in the garden. He heard a child say, "Pick it up and read it!" But there was no one there. What could it mean? Then he saw his friend's Bible on the ground. He picked it up and read it! He read that Jesus could forgive him for all the bad things he had done. He read that Jesus could help him stop doing bad things. He became Jesus' friend. His mother was so happy.

Even though he had been a naughty boy, Augustine became one of the world's most famous Bible teachers! Jesus can change anybody.





"For the LORD takes delight in his people; he crowns the humble with victory."

Psalm 149:4

Gladys Aylward

(1902-1970)

WWW WANTER TO THE TOTAL TOTAL

Are you good at lots of things, or a few things, or do you feel just ordinary?

Gladys Aylward was just ordinary. She was not very clever - just ordinary. She was not very rich - just ordinary. Her job wasn't special - just ordinary. She worked as a maid in a rich home, tidying and cleaning. But Gladys had an extraordinary friend - Jesus - and she wanted to go to China to tell people there all about him. But no one wanted her to go to China with them - they thought she was too ordinary - so Gladys went on her own.

With the help of her extraordinary friend Jesus, ordinary Gladys did some extraordinary things. She ran a hotel in the middle of nowhere and told Bible stories to the travellers. She worked for the government inspecting feet! While she checked their feet she told the people all about her friend Jesus. She stopped prisoners fighting in a prison. She looked after more than a hundred children who had no one else to love them. When war came to China she kept her children safe from danger by walking with them for days and days and days across the mountains to escape the fighting. Gladys had some extraordinary adventures!

Some people thought Gladys was too ordinary - but Jesus didn't. Jesus can help his ordinary friends like you, me and Gladys to do extraordinary things for him.



"Praise him with the sounding of the trumpet, praise him with the harp and lyre ..."

Psalm I50:3

Johann Sebastian Bach

(1685-1750)

Can you play a musical instrument? Do you have lessons on the plano or recorder? Perhaps you just like making music for fun.

When Johann Sebastian Bach was growing up in Germany he loved playing music. He played the violin ... and the viola ... and the organ ... and the harpsichord ... and the clavichord (which was like an old-fashioned piano) ... and he was really good at singing! Johann Sebastian loved music, but he loved Jesus too. He wanted to use his music to show how much he loved his friend Jesus.

When he grew up, Johann Sebastian's job was to play music and sing in church. He didn't just play and sing, he wrote new music too. He wrote music to go with the bits of the Bible that were read each sunday. He wrote new music for old church songs. He wrote special happy music for Easter Sunday and Christmas. He wrote special sad music for Good Friday when Jesus died. He wrote all his music to show people how much his friend Jesus loved them too. Sometimes Johann Sebastian's music didn't have Bible words and wasn't played in church. He still wanted his music to show how much he loved Jesus. He knew that Jesus helped him write all his beautiful music.

Why not ask Jesus to help you make up a tune to show him how much you love him too?





"You are my hiding-place; you will protect me from trouble and surround me with songs of deliverance."

Psalm 32:7

Corrie ten Boom (1892-1983)

Do you like hiding? Do you have a favourite hiding place? Behind the sofa? Under the bed? In the wardrobe?

Corrie ten Boom had a very special hiding place - a tiny little space in her bedroom. It was hidden and secret. Corrie's hiding place wasn't for playing games - it was for keeping people safe. Corrie's family lived in Holland. Bad people took over the country and did bad things. They wanted to kill all Jewish people (who come from the family of Abraham in the Old Testament). Corrie's family were Jesus' friends and knew Jesus thought this was very wrong. They looked after as many Jewish people as they could. They fed them, they hid them and they helped them escape.

One day soldiers came. They sent the whole family to prison for helping the Jews - but the Jewish people were safe in Corrie's special hiding place. Corrie and her sister Betsie weren't safe. In prison they were cold; they were hungry; they were ill; they were treated very badly. Betsie told Corrie that their friend Jesus was with them - even when they were cold, hungry, ill and badly treated. Betsie told Corrie that Jesus wanted her to love, not hate.

Betsie died in prison. But when Corrie was set free she spent her whole life telling her story; telling how Jesus was with her when she was cold, ill and hungry; telling how we should always love

and not hate - just like her friend Jesus.