



Stand for something!

Mercy

She was the daughter of a British clergyman, a believer in God, a pioneer of nursing. She saved soldiers' lives on both sides of World War I, facilitated the escape of 200 Allied troops from occupied Belgium, and sheltered many escapees in her own house. At age 49, she was executed by the German military. On the night before her death, she said she believed her soul was safe, and she was glad to die for her country. "Patriotism is not enough," she added. "I must have no hatred or bitterness towards anyone." Edith Cavell—remembered by few, but heroic to God. Like Edith, will you take a stand for an attitude of mercy in your life today?

Rescue

It's been called the second most bloody battle of World War II. One man engaged it with no gun. As a conscientious objector, Desmond Doss had already endured abuse in the military he chose to serve as a medic. At a place nicknamed Hacksaw Ridge, he ignored orders to retreat. He ran into the kill zone to carry one wounded man and then another to the edge of a 400-foot cliff, lowering them down to safety—75 or more saved by a slightly built soldier armed with his Bible, faith, and a prayer—"Lord, please help me get one more." What's your role in the battle for our world? Are you standing in faith for rescue today?

Justice

The crime of 42-year-old Rosa Parks was not to stand—but to keep her seat on a bus in Birmingham, Alabama, when ordered to move so white folk could extend their preferred section. "I had not planned to get arrested," Rosa said later in life. "I had plenty to do without having to end up in jail." In response, black churches began a movement, electing a leader by the name of Martin Luther King, Jr. Facing opposition and even terrorism, their stand against segregation inspired many more. It was a costly, inconvenient battle. Is there an opportunity for you today, that will exercise your convictions about justice on Earth?

Courage

Todd Beamer—a Christian believer—was 32 when he and some fellow passengers on United Airlines flight 93 confronted terrorists intent on taking out yet another target. September 11, 2001. An emergency services person with whom Todd had been talking on his cell phone heard him say, "Are you ready? OK, let's roll!" All on board the plane died in a field in rural Pennsylvania, but people on the ground in another location lived because someone took a stand. How is it for you? Are you carried by the tide of evil? Or are you taking a stand, even when it costs you? "Here I stand"—a testimony from long ago. Today, can you say the same?