

Use The Scene to introduce “Mighty God,” the High School Sunday school lesson for December 14, 2014. The lesson is found on page 11 of *High School Teacher* by Standard Publishing.

the SCENE

Viewing the latest news through the lens of Scripture

Heroes. We all have them. We all look up to them. We’ve all dreamt of being them. Larger-than-life men and women who swoop in and save the day with no regard for their own safety. Superhuman beings with mind-blowing powers that defeat the forces of darkness. But heroes don’t always come with muscle-packed bodies. Their costumes don’t always include long, flowing capes or hydraulic weapons. Sometimes heroes come in the most unlikely packages.

Take, for example, Drew Weatherford and Julius Tobin from Tampa, Florida. Each Christmas season, these guys strap on stuffed reindeer antlers and take their bicycles to the streets. Too much eggnog, you ask? Not even close. “The cause is simple,” says Weatherford. “We raise money to buy children bicycles.”

It started in 2011 when Drew, Julius, and 20 of their friends rode their bikes down Bayshore Boulevard as a holiday fund-raiser for local kids. It has since turned into a Christmas tradition that draws in over 1,000 people in the community. In the past three years, they’ve raised enough money to donate close to 1,000 bikes to kids who would otherwise go without.

And it’s not just the kids who receive a gift. The bikes often mean just as much to the parents. “It’s unbelievable the emotion you see where they don’t think they’re going to be able to get their child anything for Christmas, and then all of a sudden they’re able to provide them arguably the coolest gift you can possibly get,” Tobin said.

Antlers and bikes. Probably not what you think of when you picture a superhero. But for the kids receiving those bikes this Christmas, that’s exactly what Drew and Julius are.

As students arrive, give each of them a copy of the above news story to read. After all teens have had the opportunity to read the article, discuss it in this way:

Who were some of your childhood heroes? What was it about them that you admired?

How are the guys in this story different from those kinds of heroes? How are they the same? What do you admire about them?

Who are your heroes today? Why?

As we get older, our ideas of heroes change. But one thing remains the same: heroes put someone else’s good before their own. And nobody in history has done that more than Jesus. Have you ever thought of Jesus as a superhero? Let’s look at reasons why Jesus is qualified to be our hero.