

Use “The Scene” to introduce “Daniel—Devoted to the Lord” the Young Teen Sunday school lesson for April 14, 2019. The lesson is found on page 43 of *Young Teen Teacher* by Standard Publishing.

# the SCENE

Viewing the latest news through the lens of Scripture

“That person who helps others simply because it should or must be done, and because it is the right thing to do, is indeed without a doubt, a real superhero.” That quote is from Stan Lee, the former head of Marvel Comics and creator of epic characters such as Spider-Man, the Hulk, and so many more. Stan Lee passed away in November of last year, but his legendary characters are still inspiring devoted fans of the Marvel universe.

Early in January of this year, one of Marvel’s biggest fans let Reddit users know that he was not expected to live past the next three months and that he wished he could see *Avengers: Endgame* before he died (the movie is set to release this month). The man, known as Alexander, said, “I’m not a child or anyone with a particularly tragic story. Just a normal guy. I’m 33, lost my sister three years ago to the same rare genetic disease it turns out I have too. I’ll leave behind a devoted girlfriend and an adopted greyhound.” After hearing his story, Reddit users rallied around and launched a campaign to allow the man to see the film early, creating the hashtag #AvengersforAlexander. And Disney responded, saying they would work with Alexander to grant his wish.

Perhaps Stan Lee himself would have called the Reddit campaigners and the Disney film execs superheroes for their efforts to help the terminally ill man. Or perhaps Alexander is the real superhero, for giving us all a reason to hope in humanity.

*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:*

**Are you a fan of the Marvel characters? If so, why? If not, what films are you a fan of?**

**If you knew you were going to die soon, what would you want to do? What would matter most to you?**

**Have you ever been so crazy about some film or TV show or performer that you would do just about anything to go see it or get up close to the people involved? What made you love the object of your devotion so much?**

**True devotion is a valuable quality to have. Today we’re going to read about one man’s devotion to God and the three results of that devotion.**



MEETING GOD FACE-TO-FACE

© 2016 Encounter Curriculum. Copies may be made for classroom use only. Not for resale. <http://www.encounterface2face.com/category/the-scene/>