

David Livingstone and Shaka Zulu

In this unit, we will study Shaka Zulu and David Livingstone. Although these men's lifetimes overlapped, they never met. I put them together because they both had a big impact on Africa in the 1800s. Shaka Zulu was born in 1787. His mother was one of the Chief's wives of the Zulu clan. As a young boy, he was a shepherd. One day a sheep was killed. This was considered a serious offense. When his mother tried to defend him they were both thrown out of the clan. Shaka and his mother returned to her birth tribe. Shaka was treated poorly because he did not have a father from his mother's tribe. When drought came, the tribe could no longer support them and they were asked to leave. They joined up with another tribe. Here Shaka redeemed his reputation by killing a leopard.

The weapons that were used in combat were not really effective. They used spears called assegais (ah-seh-gai) but they were lightweight and flimsy. Battles between tribes were sometimes more like sporting events, and very few warriors died.

Shaka went to a blacksmith and asked him to make stronger assegais. With this more powerful weapon he practiced fighting maneuvers and became known as a brave and powerful warrior. He taught himself to fight barefoot which gave him speed and better footing. He became a leader of the army and taught his men how to fight as a single unit. He was very strict but also very generous. When his father died, Shaka was made chief of the Zulus. Although he had been absent from the clan, he was still considered the lawful heir to be chief. The Zulus were a small, weak tribe. Shaka took control and turned them into a powerful group. He made all the men fight barefoot and to fight quietly so they could hear his directions. He was a great strategist and conquered many tribes. He took captives from other tribes to add to his army. He even had a female regiment. At one time, Shaka had an army of 40,000 warriors. When his mother died, he mourned her deeply and was never the same afterwards. In 1828, he was murdered.

David Livingstone was a very industrious little boy. He worked for 14 hours each day in a factory caring for spools of thread that fed on to looms. He kept his school books lying open so that he could memorize his lessons while he worked. After work each day at 8 o'clock he went to school. His school day went from 8-10 PM. David loved God and he loved people. As a young man he heard about the lack of missionaries to China. China was being destroyed by opium and David wanted to help them. He saved his money so he could go to college and become a missionary doctor. He became a physician and was accepted into the London Missionary Society.

The time had come for him to become a missionary but the opium war had started and the Chinese borders had been closed. David Livingstone had turned his attention to Africa. In 1841, when he was 28 years old, he went to Africa. At first he was disappointed. The missionaries in Cape Town (on the southern coast) did not treat the Africans with respect. They felt that the Blacks were inferior and could only be trained to be hired workers. Livingstone had a great respect for Blacks and an even greater hatred of slavery. Livingstone went to Kuruman, a remote mission station. From here he took trips north to meet tribes, chiefs and to look for a place to set up a new mission. He found a place and started a mission teaching the people about Christ and showing them ways to improve their lives. One time a pride of lions preyed

upon the tribe's livestock. Livingstone led a group of tribesmen on a lion hunt. He was attacked and badly injured. He spent some time recuperating in Kuruman where he met, fell in love with and married Mary, the daughter of a missionary.

David and Mary had a happy life together despite all the difficult circumstances. Tribes would war against one another and sell the captives into slavery. Eventually David had to send Mary and the children back to England. David was a very practical man. He knew that before permanent missions could be established the wars would have to stop. Trade routes would need to be found so that the Africans could sell their resources rather than sell each other to slave traders. David went exploring westward from central Africa. He was looking for a river that could be used as a trade route. He kept detailed records of the journey and collected specimens of unknown plants. Travel was dangerous and difficult but he earned the respect of his African companions and they started calling him "father". When the expedition reached the western coast of Africa they sent information back to England and brought gifts back to the chiefs in central Africa. Livingstone returned to England where he was treated like a national hero. He returned to Africa to try again to find a river route, this time going toward the east coast. The trip was disappointing. He continued to explore and cry out against the slave trade. Mary died in Africa. England became disenchanted with Livingstone due to his lack of success. He found himself poor, starving and abandoned in central Africa when Mr. Henry Morton Stanley, a newspaper reporter from America, found him and furnished him with supplies. David Livingstone spent his life trying to find a way to stop slavery and bring Christianity to Africa.

NAME _____

OUTLINE (To be turned in)

Shaka Zulu

What did Shaka Zulu do as a child that was considered a great offense?

What did he do that redeemed his reputation?

What did Shaka ask to be done with the traditional assegais?

When his father died, Shaka became what?

What did Shaka do next?

David Livingstone

What work did David do as a young boy?

What Country did David have a heart for?

How did David feel about God and people?

How was China being destroyed?

Where did Livingstone go in 1841, and why did he not go to China?

Who did Livingstone respect?

What did Livingstone hate?

Florence Nightingale

Florence Nightingale was born into a very wealthy English family. The family traveled extensively and owned different properties, each with large homes. At the age of seventeen, Florence dedicated her life in service to God. Women at this time did not own property.

Florence had very limited options as to what to do with her life. It was expected that she would grow up to be a proper young lady, marry well and have a family. But Florence did not feel fulfilled with the parties and the busy social life she was expected to live.

She felt bad for the poor and wanted to help care for them. She wanted to be a nurse and work at a hospital. In those days, doctors made house calls. Hospitals were filled with the dying poor and the outcasts of society. Young ladies, unwanted by society, became nurses. Hospitals were filthy places where the poor went to die. Florence Nightingale's family was outraged that she wanted to be a nurse. No proper young lady from a rich family would lower herself and take the position of a nurse. Florence traveled and toured hospitals around Europe. She studied nursing facilities and practiced for a while in a Catholic hospital. Then she returned home to care for sick relatives. Later she took a job as superintendent at a women's hospital in London. When the Crimean war broke out (A land war between Russia and Turkey in which Turkey was aided by England and France) reports came back that soldiers were dying due to a lack of medical care. Florence decided to go help out. She gathered together a group of nurses to help and they went to Turkey.

When they arrived in Turkey they were appalled at the terrible conditions. The British army was using an old Turkish army barracks for a hospital. The building was a filthy mess. There were many broken windows. There was very poor sanitation. In fact, the building had actually been built over a septic field. It was overcrowded and most of the patients had to lay on the dirty floor because there were not enough beds. The worst problem was the lack of supplies. The army was so disorganized that there were no medical supplies- no drugs, no bandages, and no cleaning supplies, not even a broom.

Florence went right to work. She and the other nurses scrubbed and cleaned and painted. She procured her own supplies. She set up a system for cooking and for doing laundry. She and the others worked very hard to get the soldiers clean and comfortable. Eventually she hired a cook to make nutritious food that the soldiers could eat. She spent a lot of time with the soldiers. She would read letters they had received from home or write out a letter that they dictated. She was the last nurse to leave them at night. (It was not proper for nurses to stay in the hospitals overnight.) Before leaving each night she would walk among the soldiers with a lantern and check on each one of them. The soldiers adored her and called her "The Lady with the Lamp."

News about her kind and heroic efforts reached back to England and she became a national heroine. Many people donated money to her cause and Queen Victoria sent her a jeweled brooch to honor her for her work.

After the war she returned to England and continued working to modernize nursing and raise the standard of nursing care.

Name: _____

Outline (to be turned in)

Why was Florence Nightingale not expected to become a nurse?

What war broke out and where did Florence go?

What was wrong with the hospital conditions when Florence got to Turkey?

Name some important things Florence did when she was in Turkey.

Hudson Taylor Outline Questions:

Where did Hudson Taylor want to go tell people about Jesus?

What things did Taylor do to prepare to go to China?

Why did some Chinese people start to listen to Hudson Taylor?

Hudson Taylor

Summary

Hudson Taylor was born in England. Even though he didn't believe the Bible when he was young, when he was 17 years old he chose to follow God. He felt that God wanted him to go to China to tell people about Jesus.

He started learning the Chinese language and studied medicine so he could help people. He ate oatmeal and rice and gave away most of his things so he could get ready to live in China. He knew God would take care of what he needed. When he arrived in China, he noticed that the Chinese didn't listen to the British missionaries because they looked strange with their English clothes and hairstyles. So he decided to dress in Chinese clothes and wear his hair in a long braid down his back. The other missionaries were shocked! But Hudson Taylor's plan worked—the people started listening to what he had to say! He traveled farther into China to tell others about God. He later started the Inland Chinese Mission, which was a group who told the Chinese people about God. Even though Hudson Taylor had a hard life at times, he trusted that God would take care of him.