



## EXPLORE THE BIBLE.

Session 10: God Honors  
Suggested Week of Use: August 7, 2022  
Core Passage: 2 Kings 12:4-16

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### News Story Summary

Hershel “Woody” Williams, the last surviving Medal of Honor recipient from World War II, died on June 29 at the age of 98. Williams received the Medal of Honor for his heroic efforts at the Battle of Iwo Jima. Armed with a flamethrower and with riflemen covering his advance, he crawled toward a pillbox (a small, partly underground fort) where Japanese soldiers were firing on the Americans. He eventually took out seven pillboxes in about four hours. A few months later, he was called to the White House where he received the Medal of Honor from President Truman. Afterward, he always felt a sense of responsibility as a Medal of Honor recipient. After working for the Department of Veterans Affairs for three decades, he established a foundation to support Gold Star Families, families who have lost someone during a military conflict. He wanted to make sure Gold Star Families were never forgotten; so even into his 90s, he traveled more than 200 days a year to events that honored fallen service members. When asked a few months before his death why he thought he had lived so long, he said, “Maybe I’m making somebody else’s life a little better, a little more meaningful.”

For more about this story, search “Remembering Hershel ‘Woody’ Williams.”

### Focus Attention

To replace **FOCUS ATTENTION**, ask, *How do you determine your priorities?* Tell the story of Hershel Williams. Ask: *What determined Williams’s priorities after he received the Medal of Honor? How did he align his life to those priorities? Say: Williams received many accolades for how he honored others through his priorities. In today’s lesson, we will see how God honors those who embrace His priorities as their own.*

### Summarize and Challenge

To supplement **SUMMARIZE AND CHALLENGE**, remind learners of the story of Hershel Williams. Ask: *What impact do you think he had on others, not just during the war but afterward?* Encourage the group to spend time reflecting on their own priorities and how those priorities can make a positive impact on someone else’s life. Ask: *What can you do to make others’ lives better and more meaningful?* Close with prayer, asking God to help each person make Him their first priority in every area of life.