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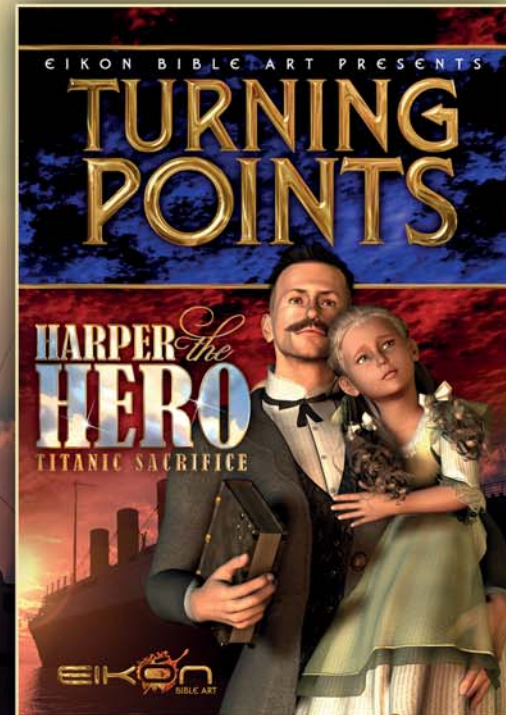
We trust this wonderful TRUE story will be a great resource for you as you reach many with the message of the gospel. The powerpoint story can be used with both children and adults who will be equally challenged when they learn of the sacrifice of John Harper - a real man of God. Study the pages following this one to get familiar with the events. Each slide has information and advice on what to say and what main lessons can be taught.

With the widespread appeal and fame of RMS Titanic, this story brings about a unique opportunity to point people to John Harper's Savior. As well as making the story available in powerpoint for you to teach - we also have other incredible resources that can be found at www.eikonbibleart.com - Comic books and short film which are perfect supplements for using at an outreach event. **Arrange a special Titanic event - tell the powerpoint story - show the short movie, then send each child home with a comic book to treasure!** Thank you for your valued support. Eikon Bible Art.

HARPER *The* HERO TITANIC SACRIFICE



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OUTLINE: BRIEF VERSION GIVING AN OVERVIEW OF THE STORY OF JOHN HARPER

(More specific detail is given on following pages)

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In the small village of Houston in Scotland, John Harper was born in 1872 to Christian parents. After deciding to follow Christ at an early age, John began passionately preaching the Word of God around the local village streets at the age of 17. Each evening he would spend hours in prayer pouring out his heart to God, with a great burden for the souls of his fellow men. Many turned to the Lord when they hear him tell of his Lord Jesus Christ and display a humble interest in their lives. John married, but tragically his wife died shortly after giving birth to their baby daughter Annie (Nana).

A church in Glasgow with only 25 members that John became pastor of grew to over 500. His ministry and preaching took him to London and further afield. When Nana was six years old (in 1912) an invite came from Moody Church in Chicago asking her father to return. Many had been saved on his first visit shortly before. John had some business to attend to and firmly believed that he should wait another week before travelling with Nana on RMS Titanic with his daughter. It was due to set sail on April 10th. Travelling 2nd class, John was heard to tell many passengers earnestly of his Savior and explain his faith in great detail.

Captain Smith was urged by Bruce Ismay (the owner of the company that built Titanic) to make headlines with the maiden voyage by arriving in New York a day ahead of schedule. On 14th April a number of issues were about to seal the fate of the largest cruise liner in the world: Six ice berg warnings were ignored. An irate radio operator broke contact with nearby ship...the 'look out' binoculars had been lost and there was no wind making it almost impossible to spot icebergs due to calm water.

At 11.40pm the starboard struck a massive berg – the damage was intense and the sinking of RMS Titanic was a foregone conclusion. During the panic, passengers were issued lifejackets and women and children ordered to fill the lifeboats (of which there were far too few – at least half of the 2,222 passengers would have no place on a lifeboat).

John Harper (who had almost drowned on 3 previous occasions in his lifetime) woke his precious daughter and took her to a lifeboat. To prevent Nana from being orphaned, John himself would have been permitted a place beside her on the lifeboat – but the thought never crossed his mind. He took the heartbreaking decision of saying goodbye to his darling daughter, telling her that they would see each other again in the future. As Nana descended on lifeboat 11, John was heard to shout to passengers on deck "Women, children and unsaved to the lifeboats".

While the famous string orchestra played "Nearer my God to Thee", John Harper preached with all his worth and many turned to God in their hour of need. As the floundering ship began to sink, John waited till the last minute to jump into the icy water. He pleaded with people to ask God to forgive their sins before it was too late.

A man Harper witness to as hypothermia set claimed he was not saved and did not want to listen to the Bible. John took off his own lifejacket (his only hope of survival) and lovingly gave it to the man with the words "Then you need this more than me". After swimming to reach others a wave brought John back to the same man who was clinging to a piece of wood. He had changed his mind realizing he had no hope without Christ. John led him to his Savior. Then as he attempted to swim to others in the water the hypothermia took over and with his last words "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and you shall be saved" John sunk below the icy water. His body was never found. But as he sank to the watery depths, his soul was already in Heaven.

On the surface the newly saved man knew he had to survive to tell the story of John Harper. As a single life boat returned the man began to shout to let them know he was still alive. Out of 1500 passengers in the water, he was one of only 6 that were rescued. Word quickly spread of the sinking of the mighty Titanic that men had claimed was unsinkable. The Carpathia collected survivors and took them to New York where a sign was displayed with passengers names. There was no mention of class – they were either 'Saved' or 'Lost'.

4 years later at a Titanic survivors meeting, the man John Harper had passed his life jacket to turned up with the claim "I am Harpers last convert".

Nana survived and grew up to be a fine woman of God. She married a preacher like her father. She was called home in 1986. The legacy and sacrifice of John Harper continue to live on and the example of selfless love and courage truly single him out as a man of God. The words of his Lord Jesus "Greater love has no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends" can rightfully be applied to this powerful preacher from Scotland.



1 Born 1872 in Houston, Scotland to Christian parents, John Harper became a loved and respected preacher who reached out to his local community with the gospel. His effective preaching helped win many for his Lord Jesus. (Scene depicts crowd listening intently to John preaching in the open air.)



2 With deep love and care for souls, John spent long hours in prayer, asking God that many would turn to Him. In 1896 he became pastor of a church in Glasgow with 25 members which grew to over 500. (Scene depicts newly married John praying with his wife in the background.)



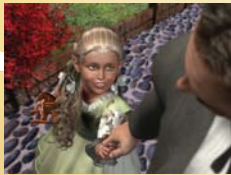
3 John and his wife were expecting their first child. (Scene depicts John's wife saying "John, if we have a little girl I would like to call her Annie - 'Nana' for short.)



4 Tragically John's wife died shortly after giving birth to Nana. (Scene depicts John at her graveside with his newly born daughter who he would have to raise on his own. John telling his daughter "Nana - your mother trusted God - she is now in heaven" then prays "Please Lord, help me raise Nana to know the importance of following you".)



5 Six years passed by. John received a telegram inviting him to return to Moody Church in Chicago, USA . Several months earlier John had preached there with great success as vast amount of people trusted in God after hearing him preach. (Scene depicts John reading the telegram.)



6 Nana was excited to hear the news that she would set sail with her father. (Scene depicts Nana in conversation - "Father I can't wait to travel all the way to America with you".)



7 John could have travelled a week earlier, but felt led to attend to other business first. (Scene depicts John sharing his belief that God had a plan - "Nana, I am sure that God wants us to travel on the Titanic".)



8 John and Nana arriving at the dock to board the Titanic on its maiden voyage. (Scene depicts the scale and majesty of the new ship.)



9 John and Nana travelled second class. (Scene depicts them humbly boarding the Titanic with the contrast of a first class passenger in the foreground.)



10 The Titanic set sail on April 10th, 1912. (Scene depicts crowd waving a final farewell to the luxurious liner.)



11 A famous photo was taken of a man and little girl strolling on the deck of Titanic which many believe to be John and Nana Harper. (Scene depicts John sharing a thought from the Bible with his daughter.)



12 Bruce Ismay (the chairman of the company that owned Titanic) urged Captain Smith to proudly show off the speed of RMS Titanic by arriving in New York a day ahead of schedule. (Scene depicts his request - "Captain, we must make headlines with this maiden voyage of Titanic - I think we should increase our speed".)



13 During cigars and brandy in a first class lounge, passengers discussed the luxury of their vessel. (Scene depicts a conversation between gentlemen over cigars and brandy - "This ship is a testament to man's greatness!" "God himself could not sink this ship".)



14 Early in the evening of April 14th there was a stunning sunset. (Scene depicts John and Nana saying his famous words "It will be beautiful in the morning".) (By the morning John would be in the beauty of heaven)



15 Six iceberg warnings were ignored by Captain Smith. (Scene depicts radio operator reporting to Captain Smith - "Sir, more iceberg warnings" to which he replied - "Just ignore them - we shall maintain course as scheduled".) Take the opportunity to draw a parallel between the warnings of the bible being ignored by many.



16 The water was very calm making icebergs much harder to see. (Scene depicts the luxury liner approaching the lurking iceberg in the foreground.)

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17 Unaware of the impending danger, the first class passengers return to their cabins after their evening of socializing. (Scene depicts the luxurious craftsmanship of the main staircase.) (Note the time on the clock approaching 11.40pm - the time the iceberg was struck)



18 In the crows nest a sailor frantically reporting his first view of the huge mountain of ice in their path. (Scene depicts sailor shouting - "ICE BERG - RIGHT AHEAD!")



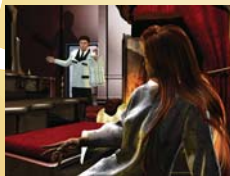
19 The starboard side of Titanic brushed against the iceberg - the damage was far worse than anyone above deck first realized. (Scene depicts passengers watching as chunks of ice break and fall onto the deck.)



20 Below deck the pierced hull began to rapidly flood. (Scene depicts workman shouting to his comrades to escape while they can.)



21 Calculations were made in the Captain's cabin which quickly showed that the sinking of the great ship was a certainty. (Scene depicts Captain Smith hearing the news - "Too many watertight bulkheads have been flooded Sir, we are going down! There are not enough lifeboats for even half the passengers and the nearest ship is hours away!")



22 Lifejackets were handed out to the passengers. (Scene depicts a first class woman being awoken by a crew member in her cabin - "Madam, please make your way to the lifeboats - wear something warm and put on this lifejacket".)



23 Below decks the corridors started to fill with water. (Scene depicts lower class passengers fleeing.)



24 Women and children were invited to fill the lifeboats. (Scene depicts crew lowering a lifeboat with terrified passengers. Emergency warning flares were fired to alert the danger.)



25 It would have been fully acceptable for John as a widower to accept a place on a lifeboat as otherwise Nana would be left an orphan at age 6, but the thought of taking a seat on a lifeboat never crossed John's mind. (Scene depicts John speaking to his precious daughter "Nana - I must take this opportunity to warn people that they need to trust in God. Be a brave girl on the lifeboat".)



26 Nana would have been very afraid. (Scene depicts the heartbreaking parting scene - "But daddy"... "Nana - this is not the end - some day we will be together again".)



27 John kissed and hugged his darling little girl for the last time before handing her over to the lifeboat crew. (Scene depicts their final words - "I love you Nana. You be a good girl. God will look after you"... "Goodbye daddy - I love you too".)



28 Nana's lifeboat (lifeboat 11) was lowered to safety. (Scene depicts John and Nana's farewell)



29 Knowing his daughter was safe, John turned his attention to his final mission to preach to the many souls that would shortly be in eternity. (Scene depicts John shouting "Women, children and unsaved to the lifeboats".)



30 Some male passengers tried to disguise themselves as women to be allowed on lifeboats - some tried to buy a seat. (Scene depicts a crew member refusing a wealthy passenger a place on a lifeboat - "No amount of money can save you now".) Note: The richest man on Titanic - Billionaire, John Jacob Astor perished which highlights a Biblical principle that money can not buy salvation.



31 While the famous string band playing 'Nearer my God to Thee' John preached with all his worth about the need to repent from sins and turn to his Lord Jesus Christ. (Scene depicts John with his open bible preaching amid the chaos - some ignore, others have stopped to accept God's offer of forgiveness)



32 As the bulk heads began to fill with water the Titanic began to sink nose first. (Scene depicts the notorious image of the rear of the ocean liner lifting out of the water as terrified passengers in the water look on.)

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33 Those safely on lifeboat 11 watch on from a distance. (Scene depicts passenger sitting beside Nana "Dear, where is your mother and father?")



34 (Scene depicts Nana's answer "My mother is in heaven and my father is still on the Titanic.) The woman embraced Nana and wrapped the blanket John had given her tightly round her.



35 The weight of the sinking hull snapped the Titanic in two which dropped the propellers underwater again. The front half sank first and once the back half began to fill with water the entire ship turned vertical and slowly descended into the freezing Atlantic. (Scene depicts view from above the sinking ship with passengers falling to the icy water.)



36 John stayed aboard for as long as possible before jumping into the sea. (Scene depicts John praying - "This is it - Lord, help me to reach as many as possible in their time of need")



37 John swam from person to person in the freezing water, inviting them to urgently trust in God. (Scene depicts a passenger amid the debris giving her life to God.)



38 John shouted to a man without a lifejacket clinging to a piece of driftwood. (Scene depicts John speaking "Sir - if you believe on the Lord Jesus Christ you will spend eternity in Heaven - do you want to trust Him?" - the man refused)



39 John took off the lifejacket he had been given on the boat which was now sinking to the foot of the Atlantic. (Scene depicts John giving the man his lifejacket - "Sir, then you need this more than me")



40 John swam away to tell other of God's love, but a wave brought him back shortly after. (Scene depicts the man having a change of heart "Mr Harper, stop! I want to get right with God!.)



41 John took time to preach to the man. (Scene depicts John saying "The bible teaches that Jesus Christ is the only way to Heaven - do you want to accept Him as your Saviour and Lord?" - the man agreed then prayed.)

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42 With chaos all around the man found hope. (Scene depicts his prayer "Lord Jesus, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me and give me a place in Heaven.) John embraced his new 'brother'.



43 Leaving him behind John swam off in an attempt to reach others. (Scene depicts John's final message as he shouted with all the energy he had left "The Bible teaches 'Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you shall be saved'")



44 It was John's final words. Hypothermia had set in and his work on earth was over. (Scene depicts John's hand sinking below the surface.) (Note - John's bible in the foreground)



45 John's body was never found, but as his lifeless body sank to the depths of the Atlantic - his soul was already in Heaven. (Scene depicts underwater view of John's drowned body.)



46 On the surface the man John had just reached shouted as a lifeboat approached (Scene depicts him thinking "I must survive this ordeal to tell the story of that brave man of God".) He was one of only six people to be pulled out of the water alive.



47 Word began to spread that the famous Titanic was at the bottom of the ocean with vast loss of life. (Scene depicts a lad selling newspapers with the slogan "Titanic disaster - great loss of life.")



48 The Carpathia rescue boat transported survivors picked up from the lifeboats to New York. (Scene depicts a sign being hung which simply named passengers under two categories - Saved or Lost.) There was no distinction between class - take the opportunity to draw a parallel between the bible truth that we too are either saved or lost.



49 4 years later the man who had met John in the water spoke at a Titanic survivors meeting. (Scene depicts him speaking in public - "I am John Harper's last convert".)



50 Final scene to conclude the story. (Scene depicts John and Nana with the RMS Titanic.) Nana lived a fulfilled life. She married a man of God and live until 1986 when she was called home to be with her Heavenly Father and reunited with her earthly father. John left a tremendous example of courageous Christian love. A real man of God was required on that fateful night to bravely reach people in their hour of need, and God chose John Harper.