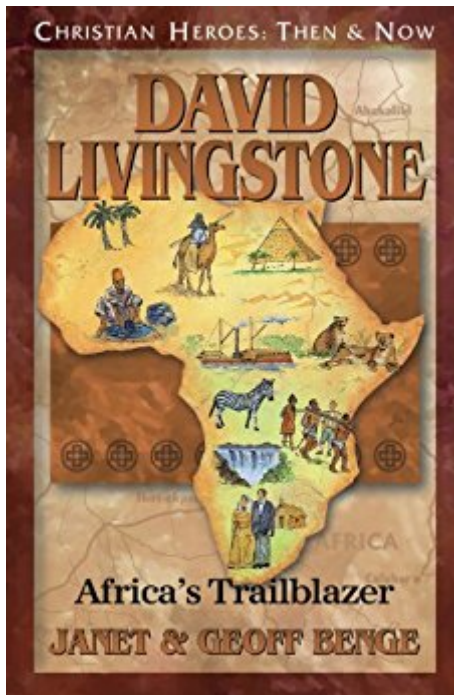


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# David Livingstone: Africa's Trailblazer (Christian Heroes: Then & Now)



## Synopsis

"The lion's jaws gripped David Livingstone's arm. Razor-sharp teeth pierced his flesh as the lion savagely shook David in the air like a rag doll. A gunshot rang out. 'God help us,' David moaned, as the lion dropped him and turned to charge David's friend Mebalwe."With the heart of an explorer and the passion of an evangelist, David Livingstone mapped vast, unexplored areas of Africa, sharing the gospel with whomever he encountered. His stamina, perseverance, and dogged determination created the legacy of a trailblazing explorer with an undying hunger to make Christ known wherever his steps led him.David Livingstone's captivating adventures and tireless zeal continue to inspire countless men and women to bring the gospel message of God's love to those souls who have never heard.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This is a great series that can be enjoyed by young children and adults. I used them as part of the training for a short term missions campaign. Each of the fourteen team members read a different biography in this series and then reported to the rest of the team. It was reminder that the training

topics we were learning were relevant and lived out by the faithful and fruitful missionaries introduced by this series of biographies. For many of the team this was their first introduction to reading Christian biography and they loved it!

Positives of this series:

- 1) Great introductory overviews of the lives and ministries of the individuals.
- 2) Basic reading level for an increasingly illiterate culture.
- 3) Short enough to be read quickly in a culture with an increasingly short attention span.
- 4) Available in Kindle and audio book for the technologically inclined.
- 5) Well written and holds your attention without being exaggerated and exploitative.
- 6) Chapters are short and can easily be read to children at bedtime or by adults on lunch breaks.

Negatives of this series:

- 1) Due to their brevity and target audience the series does not deal with the more negative aspects of an individual's struggles with sin and the weaknesses in their personality as sinners saved by grace.
- 2) Does not come across as hagiography (so idealizing the person that it borders on idolatry) but these introductions are not the place to get the full picture of these godly but imperfect champions for God. Instead they are great springboards to more extensive biographies that deal with the fuller picture of these heroic but very human Christ followers.

David Livingstone's story is unbelievable. An adventure you expect to see in fiction. As amazing as he was, we still see the battles he faces with regards to physical and emotional suffering. A very real account that the reader can sympathize with. His zeal and passion for mission is up there among the greatest and I am humbled and inspired. A well documented biography that also gives much visibility to colonial history in Africa during Livingstone's lifespan. Great read

This is a concise form of the missionary David Livingston. It tells the main facts about David being more of an explorer than a true missionary. There are 3 ways a minister, preacher, priest, or missionary can fail his duties. He will fail one or more of the 3 G's: Glory, Gold, or Girls. It is for sure Livingstone wanted a lot of glory. He did not really do his family justice either. But England loved him because of all the glory they got from his adventures and claiming things for the country. I had heard of David Livingstone for many years, but I did not know some of the details until I read this book. The book will give you a good outline of his life.

This was the first book of this Christian Heroes series I read to my kids (6 and 9), and it definitely held their attention. It was quite good talking about Livingstone's early life. Maybe that's the part that is most interesting to kids, I don't know. As an adult, I was a little disappointed that this book did not explain more the significance of David Livingstone's life. I had to fill in some details from what I

remembered in school about his amazing last journey (after he died). I think it does not portray just how much his African companions loved him, and how deep his influence among the Africans was (and how much of a contrast it was to the other explorers/conquerors who gave the Europeans a bad name). It did not say much about Livingstone's far-reaching influence on his countrymen, either--rethinking the white man's burden, his passion to end slavery, and his ideas about how opening up the areas to trade could help wipe it out. It may have mentioned these things in passing, but these things were so important in his life. Nor did it talk much about his uneasy relationship with the slavers themselves when he got in trouble on his missions, and I think it downplays his failures. In fact, all of his later years in this book are mostly a blur (this is often true of most of the books in this series, even when the later years were extremely important; it feels like the authors just got tired, and realized they had to end soon). As I said, though, it certainly held my kids' attention, and I'm not at all sorry I bought it. I'm not aware of anything else that's better, especially for the intended audience.

A good biography--a typical Bengé book.

YWAM books are always worth the read!

Did you ever read a missionary story only to find it boring? Does serving God in remote areas seem not glamorous enough for you? When you attack life as David Livingstone did, head on fearlessly, you bring the excitement with you! Through a lion attack, threats from cannibals, injurious falls, malaria, wrong information, lost rivers, frequent separation from his family, David Livingstone never flinched nor lost his fervor to press on to do what God called and continuously kept calling him to do.

Because of his perseverance to map Africa in a day before airplanes and GPS, for the purpose of getting the glorious Gospel of Jesus Christ to people in darkness, He pressed on. When others thought he should give up, or criticized him, or equipment failed, he pressed on. If you have sons who want to read about righteous adventure, let them read a TRUE adventure. It may inspire them to greatness!

Very interesting book, read it with our 2 kids and they really enjoyed it. Amazing to think of what they had to go through and David's perseverance despite difficulty.

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