

News Story Summary

From 2006-2010, NBC broadcast a science fiction series called *Heroes*. The first season was very popular and well-received by fans and critics alike. But the storyline grew increasingly convoluted, the writing and quality of each episode declined, and after four seasons, the network pulled the plug on the series, leaving many plotlines unresolved. But on September 24, 2015, *Heroes Reborn* debuted. Show creator Tim Kring said, "We had a brand-new writers' room, and that was very good, because I wanted this to be brand-new idea." In keeping with this, only one character from the original show returned for the new series.

(For more on this story, search the Internet using phrases such as "Heroes Reborn.")

Focus Attention

Begin by asking the group to call out various movies and TV series that have been released recently (or are about to release) that are remakes or reboots of earlier works. Examples are *Star Wars*, *Star Trek*, *Spider-Man*, *Fantastic Four*, and *Ghostbusters* (this time with an all-female cast). Group members might also mention movie franchises that replace the lead actor every so often, such as James Bond or Jack Ryan.

Share the news story about the TV show *Heroes Reborn*. Ask: *Why do you think remakes and re-boots are so popular these days?* Some possible reasons might be that there is already a built-in audience so it's a safer investment, or that these are good stories with great characters that just need updating.

Remind group members of last week's session about Noah's Ark. Review with them that the reason God destroyed the world was that it had become completely corrupt. Draw attention to the title of today's session (A Fresh Start) and the point (As an act of grace, God offers people the opportunity for a fresh start based on a covenant relationship). Remark that God's creation was a good. But when it went bad, it needed a fresh start.

Challenge

Remind the group of the news story about the *Heroes Reborn* TV show. Comment that the word "reborn" has special significance for followers of Jesus. The story of creation getting a fresh start isn't just history. For those of us who have confessed our sin and surrendered our lives to the Lordship of Christ, it is our testimony. Close by thanking God for the fresh start He has given all who place their faith in Jesus, and pray for those who need a fresh start.