

The novel Robinson Crusoe by Daniel Defoe shows the faith in a person to survive purely on determination and will. With no previous knowledge of tools, navigation, or even a belief in God, Robinson Crusoe learns to acquire these skills by himself when he is stranded on a deserted island. Robinson Crusoe first thinks he is lucky to be the only survivor, but later he changes his mind and feels God has cursed him to be all alone without a companion or hope of escaping. After developing a true belief in God, Crusoe changes his mind once again. Instead of luck landing him on the island, he feels God blessed him for being the lone survivor of the entire ship. Daniel Defoe shows that if you believe in yourself and in God, you can overcome any obstacle.

After Robinson Crusoe sets sail to Africa in search of slaves, his boat is crushed in a huge sea storm. He is then knocked out of the boat and almost drowns. Luckily, he is washed ashore by waves. Robinson Crusoe now has to fend for himself, because he is the only survivor on this abandoned land. His main concern is survival. He has no idea how to use tools, but from his own determination to live, he learns how to make things on his own. With nothing but his bare hands and a couple of hatchets, he starts out building a shelter for himself. From acquiring these new skills, he adds onto his house and learns to form his own tools. Out of new experiences with these tools and his vivid imagination, he now has the ability to build anything that he wishes for. Later, he builds a table, chair, shelves, a summer home, canoe, and a boat. Robinson Crusoe shows us that a person can fight against the odds and win because of pure determination, even if he doesn't know how he will ever do it.

When Crusoe first steps on the island, he knows nothing of it. He doesn't have a map or a compass, so it is up to him to explore this new world. He starts out on foot, cautiously searching and discovering the land. When he learns to build a boat, he then has the ability to see the whole island. He also builds a summer home and a lookout so he can explore even more. Now, with a good sense of the island, Robinson Crusoe feels like he is king and is ready for anything that may happen. He is proud of the skills that he has developed and his knowledge of the island so he feels as if he owns it. Crusoe teaches us that through time and effort, we can make the hardest tasks seem easy.

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The last, and most important part of the book is Robinson Crusoe's new found faith in God. He realizes that God saved him, looks after him and is his only means for survival. At anytime throughout the entire book, Crusoe could have put the fowling piece to his head and ended it all, but God wouldn't have allowed that or let Crusoe give up. In a way, God rewarded Crusoe for hanging onto his faith over all the years by having Friday come to the island to accompany him. Crusoe did what was right, to save Friday's innocent soul from the savages, and Friday showed thanks by being Crusoe's faithful servant for life. With no past belief in God, Crusoe looked deep into himself and found God, which in turn was the most important learning Crusoe gained while on the island.

Robinson Crusoe was in one of the worst positions anyone could be in; he was all by himself and left with nothing. Many people would have given up if they were in this situation. In order to survive on his own, he must not only be able to provide his own food and shelter, but he must believe in himself that he can succeed. When Crusoe finds a belief in God, his inner strength allows him to do anything he wants to do with his life. The book Robinson Crusoe teaches us all that if we believe in ourselves and believe in God, we can overcome any obstacle.

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