



Knockout: Crushing your Calling Killers

Week 1: Victim Mentality

What we want students to learn: We have been confusing ourselves with victim instead of fighter.

What we want students to do with what they've learned: Be able to say with confidence, "Count me in, again and again."

Large Group Message Focus: Hebrews 10:39 and 1 Corinthians 9:24-27

Scripture Focus: Jeremiah 29:11 and 1 John 1:6

The Main Point

Welcome to week 1 of Knockout: Crushing your Calling Killers. At Fusion, many of your students made commitments to the calling God has placed on their life, to be the light. Even for those students who were not at Fusion, God still absolutely has a plan for their life. No matter if they received it at Fusion or some other time, stepping into the big and mighty calling God has for them can be a bit intimidating. A lot of times we are fearful and we don't even know why. So, during this series we are going to uncover specific areas in students' lives that so often prevent them from living out their calling. Today we are starting with having a "victim mentality." This week we are encouraging students to say, "Count me in, again and again," as they fight to crush the victim mindset.

INTRODUCTION

To kick off group for the night, ask your students the following question.

- **If I told you our small group was all going skydiving tomorrow, what thoughts would immediately pop into your head?**

Some students were grinning ear to ear at the thought of this happening. Others are silently praying this very moment that you were joking. As your students began to unpack their thoughts, did you notice any consistencies in their answers?

Just as we all have concerns and maybe even fears when it comes to jumping out a plane, we all have concerns and fears when it comes to following God's plan for our life. This month we are going to talk about how to crush our calling killers, the things that keep us from doing all God is calling us to do.

PRAY that your students would be encouraged that they are not alone in their fear, but bold enough to still step into God's plan for their life.

LESSON

Before students even need to crush the victim mindset in their life, they first need to believe that God even has victory in store for them. For many students, no one has EVER spoken victory over their life. No wonder the victim mindset is running rampant.

Jeremiah 29:11 - "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

- **Do you ever feel like the world, or even God, has set you up to fail? Name a time when you felt this way.**
- **What plans do you think God might have for you?**
 - *Ex: To spread the gospel and His love.*
- **What does it mean to you to know that God knows the plans for your life?**
 - *God loves us so much that he took intentional time to make a plan for our life, a good plan that will prosper.*
- **What does it mean to play the "victim?"**
 - *When we play the "victim," we may easily say things such as, "it's not my fault," "they did it to me," "don't look at me," etc.*

1 John 1:6 - "If we say that we have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth."

- **This verse mentions "walking in darkness." How is playing the "victim" walking in the dark?**
 - *Through Jesus we can have victory. Now, we may not win every battle, but we can certainly have ultimate victory. Therefore, when we walk in the dark, we are choosing to refuse the victorious mindset Jesus wants to give us.*
- **How can we keep practicing the truth? How can we stay shining and not walk into the darkness?**
 - *Spend intimate time with God, spend time around encouraging people, ask God to increase my courage to fight even when I don't feel like it, etc.*

LIFE APPLICATION

All of God's people (no matter the age) have a purpose/calling in life. But a lot of times, we let our fears, distractions, and struggles beat us down and consequently stop chasing our purpose. We have to fight for this calling in a dark world! We can't let things of this Earth stop us from living God's plan, and that includes clinging to the victim mentality.

- **How often do things happen better when you do them alone?**
- **When is a time when something didn't go well when you tried to do it alone?**
 - *No matter how introverted you are, you still know we need people around us. People keep our mind in line and build us up. Things don't always happen better alone. We have a relational God, we were meant to do things TOGETHER. That means, we cannot beat the victim mentality alone.*
- **When you first started following Jesus, did it feel easier to deal with the daily battles? How has that changed since then?**
- **What's one thing you can focus on when you're in a fight you feel you can't win?**
 - *God's word is the ultimate place to start. When we memorize it, we set ourselves up to rest in His victorious promises.*

CLOSING ACTIVITY

As a group, decide on a declaration for the students to tell themselves every morning to fight against the victim mentality. Ex: "I will give my all to God today." "I will walk in God's grace today."

Write down your group declaration and ask them about it throughout the week.

TAKE IT OUT

Close small group out with prayer requests. Pray specifically that your group would walk in the victory of Jesus this week.

After prayer, be sure to remind them of any upcoming group serving activities or student events and THE WEEKEND!