Instructions: Print out the stories and coins for each team.



Team 1 story & Coin Questions

Nick Vujicic



Imagine getting through your busy day without hands or feet. Picture your life without the ability to walk, care for your basic needs, or even embrace those you love. Meet Nicholas Vujicic (pronounced VOO-yee-cheech). Without any medical explanation or warning, Nick was born in 1982 in Melbourne, Australia, without arms and legs. Three sonograms failed to reveal complications. And yet, the Vujicic family was destined to cope with both the challenge and blessing of raising a son who refused to allow his physical condition to limit his lifestyle.

The early days were difficult. Throughout his childhood, Nick not only dealt with the typical challenges of school and adolescence, but he also struggled with depression and loneliness. Nick constantly wondered why he was different than all the other kids. He questioned the purpose of life, or if he even had a purpose.

According to Nick, the victory over his struggles, as well as his strength and passion for life today, can be credited to his faith in God. His family, friends and the many people he has encountered along the journey have inspired him to carry on, as well.

Since his first speaking engagement at age 19, Nick has traveled around the world, sharing his story with millions, sometimes in stadiums filled to capacity, speaking to a range of diverse groups such as students, teachers, young people, business professionals and church congregations of all sizes. Today this dynamic young evangelist has accomplished more than most people achieve in a lifetime. He's an author, musician, actor, and his hobbies include fishing, painting and swimming. In 2007, Nick made the long journey from Australia to southern California where he is the president of the international non-profit ministry, Life Without Limbs, which was established in 2005.



How the person reacted in the face of suffering and dealt with it in their life?

LUNOT How have they helped other people because of their suffering?



Loin 2 What negative things came from their suffering?



Loin 2 What positive things came from their suffering?



Team 2 story & Coin Questions

Jason Jones



Jason Jones began his life as a militant anti-Catholic atheist. "Shortly before my 17th birthday, I discovered that my high school girlfriend was pregnant," he told Legatus magazine. "We decided that we would keep the pregnancy a secret until the sixth month." Jones opted to join the Army as part of his plan to take care of his baby. He said he will never forget the call he received from his girlfriend six months after conception. The girl's father had discovered the pregnancy and forced her to have an abortion. The baby — whom they had already named Jessica — was no more. Jones said he was revolted by the injustice. "I didn't know that abortion

it was incomprehensible to me that someone could kill another human being." Jones promised his girlfriend that he would end abortion for Jessica. His anger and fury drove him for the next 15 years. From the age of 17, Jones worked as an atheist pro-life activist. Contact with Christian churches, studying political philosophy, the Bible, the Church Fathers and friendships with faithful Catholics chipped away at him until he finally realized he had to make a decision. On Aug. 6, 2003, the Feast of the Transfiguration, Jones entered the Catholic Church. "It was miraculous," he said. "I had that burden lifted on the day of my baptism. All the anger went away." The movie Crescendo is dedicated in loving memory of Jessica Jones. Jason is Co-Executive Producer of BELLA, recipient of The People's Choice Award at the 2006 Toronto International Film Festival. BELLA has inspired hundreds of abortion-bound mothers to choose life for their babies. Jason began working in the pro-life movement while attending the University of Hawaii. There he formed the Pro-Life Student Union and also served as State Chairman of Young Americans for Freedom, a national group of conservative student activists. He later became Chairman of the Hawaii Young Republicans, and worked as Chief-of-Staff for State Representative Mark Moses. Jason's other pro-life credentials include: Director of Hawaii Right to Life, National Youth Director of American Life League, grassroots Director of Brownback for President, and Public Relations Director for the world's largest international pro-life organization, Human Life International, Jason champions Life as host of The Great Campaign on Radio Maria. He has verbally sparred with pro-abortionists on ABC's Politically Incorrect, Fox and CNN. Jason is the Founder of HERO [Human-Rights Education and Relief Organization] a non-profit that promotes human dignity regardless of ability, age, status, race, or geography. He spearheaded a recent HERO initiative to bring clean water to suffering refugees in South Sudan. In 2009, despite the government's warning of unsafe travel, Jason visited Darfur and inspected 26 new water wells and distributed \$2 million in food, medicine, and other aid. Jason's BELLA HERO PROGRAM provides free screenings of the film in pregnancy care centers, on school campuses and in prisons. Jason's "Movie To Movement" aims at transforming the culture with a message of beauty, truth, and love. Jason's other filmography credits include: Associate Producer of The Stoning of Soraya M. [2008], which won both the NAACP Image Award in 2010, and the L.A.Film Festival Award in 2009; Crescendo [2011]; and Eyes to See [2010]. Jones most recent film and brainchild, Crescendo, which hit theatres in February 2013. Jason lives with his wife, in Los Angeles and is the proud parent of 6 children

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How have they helped other people because of their suffering?

What negative things came from their suffering?

What positive things came from their suffering?

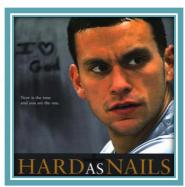


7TH & 8TH GRADE WEEKLY ACTIVITY

Team 3 story & Coin Questions

Justin Fatica & Friends





In 1997 a young man sitting in Saint Peters Cathedral in Erie, PA had an experience with God. God touched him in his heart and encouraged him to make Christ popular. He believed that God had something really big planned so that he could bring praise and honor to the love of his life Jesus Christ string That young man's name is Justin Fatica.At the age of seventeen Justin promised God that he would dedicate his life to spreading the name of his personal Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Upon graduating Cathedral Prep in Erie, PA, he attended Seton Hall University. While at Seton Hall he founded the 12 Apostles Program, a program designed to help his fellow college students develop a relationship with Jesus Christ. They traveled throughout the metropolitan area bringing the Word

of God to high school students. This was just the beginning of Justin fulfilling promise to God sep After graduating Seton Hall, he decided to continue his mission as a religion teacher and campus minister at Paramus Catholic High School in Paramus, NJ. It became clearer here, that the Lord had different call on his life. He made a firm decision to begin his plan of starting his mission starting his mission starting as Nails Ministries, founded in 2002, has touched thousands of lives. Fatica now believes that this is an answered prayer that he has been waiting for since 1997. His goal is to use what he calls "ENTERTAINMENT WITH A MESSAGE" to an MTV, video game and in your face generation. It is intense and you will never forget his unparalleled and intensely dynamic speaking style. Whether it is an "in your face" style like so many media outlets polarize or his gentle tender hearted approach. His message is about loving all people no matter who they are or what they have been through. It is not just about him. He has teams of college and high school students who work hard at developing skits and testimonies to touch the lives of young people throughout the country. Fatica has touched lives in such a dramatic way that the ministry has had numerous youth, after their Hard as Nails experience, travel hundreds of miles just to be a part of the mission again.

Tim Hanley

Tim Hanley was born and raised in the New Jersey suburbs of NYC. At the age of 16, after a powerful encounter with the mercy of Christ, he knew he had to serve the LORD. This is when he met the other men who would later begin Hard as Nails Ministries Inc. A recruited D1 college football player, Tim went on to play in the Ivy League. He used this experience of "teamwork" and "commitment" in order to found a college faith community marked by a three-fold devotion to the Blessed Mother, to the Holy Father, and to Our Eucharistic Lord. This community, called SOULDIERS MINISTRY, continues to grow with men and women whose hearts burn with a zeal to be apostles to their campuses. When the LORD called Tim to give up his love - football - in order to devote his full time to "Kingdom business," he struggled to yield to the Spirit, but grace abounded and he began the next step of his great adventure of the life of faith.sep



7TH & 8TH GRADE WEEKLY ACTIVITY



After graduating from Cornell University, Tim discerned the religious life as a Franciscan Friar of the Renewal. He spent one year living among and serving the poor and suffering in Harlem, Bronx, and Newark, NJ. The experience of relying on others' generosity just for the basic needs of life was not only humbling, but enlightening for Tim. This was a tremendous opportunity to retreat from the battlefield of the world, and enter the battlefield of his own soul. As the year of formation unfolded, it became quite apparent to Tim that the greatest battle he would ever fight is that of the interior self... the battle for sainthood which we are all called to fight. His passion for urban outreach was cultivated in the inner city, and his heart still beats for the streets. During this time of formation as a Franciscan friar, it became clearer over time that the LORD was calling him back into the world in order to work to "sanctify the secular." Inspired by his hero, the Great Pope John Paul II, he now seeks to renew the church and the world as a lay evangelist, traveling and preaching to young people all across the world. When not on the road, you can find him in the streets surrounding his office in Newark, NJ - bringing hope to an area infested with gangs, drugs, sex, and violence stepsee As the spark of the Caribbean mission, Tim has developed the international component of Hard as Nails, founding communities and establishing outreaches on various Caribbean islands. In addition to the international missions however, Tim also has a passion for the mission to reclaim the masculine identity in Christ. His dream is to see a RENEWAL of authentic manhood in both the Church and the world. He also attests to the fact that the first place he fights to see manhood redeemed is in his own heart, in his own soul, in his own life. Tim's versatility and ability to engage various audiences has had him sitting on faith discussion panels at Ivy League universities, inspiring incarcerated youth in the Bronx NYC, and preaching Christ anywhere in between. Invite him to your event and you will most certainly be blessed by his authenticity, his passion, and his apostolic zeal for souls!

Brian Greenfield

Brian Greenfield was born and raised in Washington, DC. After graduating from high school, Brian attended Seton Hall University. While there, God moved powerfully in Brian's heart and life. Brian began to attend a weekly prayer meeting with other students. This eventually grew into a retreat ministry called the 12 Apostles Program. While leading a retreat, Brian promised God that he would stop living for himself and gave his life to Jesus Christ Sepsethe continued to work in youth and young adult ministry during his four years at Seton Hall, speaking at numerous youth events and youth groups. After graduating with a degree in communications, Brian attended the Franciscan University of Steubenville for theology. While at Franciscan, he felt God calling him to give more of himself. Brian withdrew from school and entered the Community of the Franciscans of the Renewal. As a postulant, Brian lived in Harlem, served the poor, and began his formation as as Franciscan Friar Friar After finishing the postulancy, Brian returned to Washington, DC to further discern God's call for his life. Brian returned to Seton Hall University to study theology, where he served as a part-time Campus Minister for the university and taught religion at Paramus Catholic High School. He also began his work with Hard as Nails. He received his M.A. in Theology in May 2005. Brian has spoken to thousands of youth and young adults about the message of Jesus Christ. He has written numerous articles concerning various aspects of Christian living. Brian is also one of the few black catholic evangelists in the United States Frian believes that God has given him gifts to bring the message of Jesus Christ to others and knows that there is a prevailing hopelessness in this world that can only be remedied through an encounter with Christ. Brian is currently a faith formation coordinator for Incarnation Parish in Tampa Florida. He resides in Spring Hill Florida with his wife Genevieve and his two children Mieko and Michael SEPSEP



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