

MORE THAN CONQUERORS

A CALL TO RADICAL DISCIPLESHIP

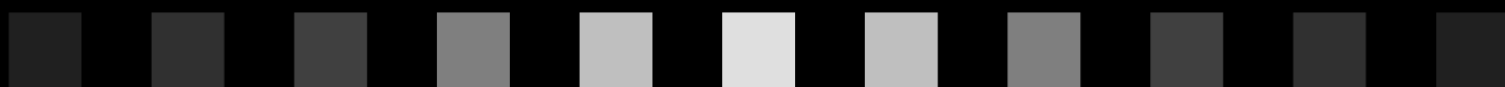
These questions are to help you think through the issues raised in the films. They are just potential springboards to deeper reflection. Hopefully they will lead you to some interesting and fruitful (and sometimes heated) discussions in any given group context as people wrestle with different concepts and ideas. *Go for it!*

Watch the videos at more-than-conquerors.com

PART ONE: How can I live radically?

■ Three Seconds

1. How much do you agree or disagree with the opening of this film? Are you a follower of Jesus or of Christianity? To what extent is your faith wrapped in Christian culture rather than a relationship with Jesus?
2. When have you jumped? When have you stepped back from the edge? What happened?
3. "Ninety percent of the time it's just showing up." What is your experience of 'just showing up'? Consider Matthew 14:13-21. What did Jesus do with the people who just showed up? And with the disciples who just brought forward what little food they had found?
4. Do people know you for what you do or what you don't do? Do you live life to be unscathed or do you live life to experience the fullness of stepping out and taking risks?



■ Aroma

1. What is your understanding of the gospel? Read John 16:33 - of the two parts to that verse, which one do you find most emphasized in your experience? How will an imbalanced understanding affect your outlook and approach to your faith journey?
1. When have you been let down by the gospel? When have you been disillusioned? Could it be your gospel and God weren't big enough for the situation?
2. How do you understand Jesus in light of the persecuted church? Or in light of the oppressed of the world? How do you think their understanding of Jesus might differ from yours?
3. The authentic gospel is no soft sell. The Church in the West has largely imbibed a diluted gospel. How can we model a more authentic gospel so as to give off the (beautiful) aroma of life?

■ Trust

1. Who do you trust?
2. What do you trust God for? What do you trust your family for? Your friends? Your job? Your government?
3. Have you ever felt like God let you down? What happened? When have you been in a sticky situation where God has come to the rescue?
4. What are you afraid of? What do you spend your time worrying about?
5. Parallel the Father-Son illustration within the film to Matthew 14:22-32.



■ Hanging in There

1. How do you react when you go through dry periods in your faith? Panic, jump ship, fade out, doubt? When you experienced bleakness, what signs of hope, strength, or joy fell into your lap?
2. Describe a powerful period of silence in your life? What was going on? What did you learn?
3. Read Romans 5:3-5. Why rejoice? Why carry on? What hope do we have? Where is our shore?
4. God promises that he will never leave or abandon us. Do you believe that? Have you bought into the lie that his proximity to you is in direct relation to how you feel about him?
5. Read 1 Kings 19:1-8. What happened to Elijah when he was too tired to press on?

■ In His Presence

1. What can you learn from the prayers you've just witnessed? Did any capture you in particular?
2. Describe your prayer life. When do you pray? What do you pray?
3. What percentage of your prayers is spent on asking forgiveness, chatting with God, listening, requesting, asking questions? How far do your prayers stray away from your own personal circumstances?
4. What's the most honest prayer you've ever prayed? What was the most affecting prayer anyone has ever prayed over you?
5. Is there a rhythm of prayer in your life? How often do you intentionally pray with others? On your own?
6. Read a prayer from one of the Psalms, and then craft your own.



PART TWO: Why live radically?

■ Ubuntu

1. What is your worldview and how has it been shaped by your upbringing and culture? Do you recognize any divergences with the concept of 'ubuntu'? As Jesus said "love your neighbour as yourself", who is your neighbour?
2. What are three things you can do, change, or give up today that will directly impact the lives of the poorest in the world?
3. Who are the 'least of these' in your community?
4. When have you chosen death over life? Discuss a relationship where you have chosen bitterness over forgiveness.
5. If, as the film says, "God's vision is multitudes of his people fully alive", what steps would help you to become more fully alive?

■ Living Sacrifice

1. When John the Baptist saw Jesus, he said, "Behold, the lamb of God who came to take away the sins of the world." Consider God's use of lambs in sacrifice. Look at Exodus 12 and Isaiah 53:4-11. What purpose, reason, and symbolism can you glean from these passages? What is God up to?
2. Respond to the illustration of the goat and the lamb. Do you drag your heels when the Lord asks you to lay something in your life on the altar?
3. What does dying to oneself actually mean?
4. Read Micah 6:6-8, Why doesn't God delight in our sacrifices and ceremonies and offerings? What does he desire? What is good to God?
5. How do you become a living sacrifice? What does that look like in your life?



■ Are You Ready

1. Summarize the experience at the village church. What was the sermon on and why was it so timely?
2. Read and reflect on Matthew 25:1-13.
3. Be honest: how urgent do you see the message of the Gospel? What are you doing daily to prepare yourself and others for eternity?
4. Are you ready?
5. Should we beg forgiveness for 'looking at the world with dry eyes'? What point is the film's last line making?



PART THREE: What will radical living look like?

■ Dreamers

1. Are you a dreamer of the day? When are you most creative? Where does your imagination take you?
2. What is impossible to you in this world? Imagine your community. What do you see? What can you imagine for this place?
3. Who are the 'dreamers of the day' in your life and community? What is it you could learn from them?
4. Read Hebrews 11. We come from a heritage of those who lived by faith, who trusted in the God of the impossible, and saw beyond. Name some of these pillars of faith. What were they facing? What did they envision? How did they overcome?
5. Moses never reached the Promised Land but he never stopped moving towards it. How? What was his motivation? Read Hebrews 11:26-27 for insight.
6. Freddy is living his dream as he builds and runs that orphanage. What is your dream? What steps can you take towards it becoming a reality?

■ Screaming Injustice

1. What makes you mad?
2. Consider this quote: "What is needed is a realization that power without love is reckless and abusive, and love without power is sentimental and anaemic. Power at its best is love implementing the demands of justice, and justice at its best is power correcting everything that stands in the way of love" (Martin Luther King Jr. "Letter from Birmingham Jail 1963).
3. Read Revelation 3:15-17. How do you think God and the enemy feel about neutrality?
4. What is the difference between charity and solidarity? Why is charity not enough? Where do you see charity in the church? Where do you see solidarity? Was Jesus a charitable contributor or the manifestation of empathy, solidarity, and subversion? Discuss further.



5. What are luxuries in your life and what are necessities? What lifestyle changes can you make to demonstrate what it means to live in a way that does not intentionally or unintentionally oppress others? What can you sacrifice and redistribute so that others may have more? And the crunch: will you do it?

■ Got to Go

1. Why is it important to understand that God is a God of action verbs?
2. Do you think you're being bold enough in your vision, your choices, your prayers, and your very location? What is your 'over there'?
3. Though we can't always be sure of where we're meant to go or what we're meant to do, what can we be sure of? Where do you see this evidenced in Scripture? Read James 1:27 and Luke 4:18-19 for hints,
4. Why is guilt so toxic? What is to be our motivation?
5. Where are you convicted to 'go'? Around the street or across the world? What stirs you to make a move?

■ Total Surrender

1. What is Susanne's offering? How is it symbolic and exemplary of what our offering to Christ should be?
2. What are you willing to give up to follow Christ? Your job? Your house? Your lifestyle? Your privilege? And what are you holding back? Why?
3. What have you given up to follow him? What are you still hanging on to as your own?
4. What does it cost to be a disciple of Christ? Read Matthew 10. What does Jesus expect of us? Or read 1 Chronicles 21:20-24. What are your thoughts about David's response in v24?
5. What have you offered the Lord that does not cost you anything? Have you ever asked the Lord what He would like you to give as an offering or sacrifice?



CONCLUSION: So what's it worth?

■ What's it Worth

1. Discuss whether it is "absolutely logical, sensible and reasonable to give up everything in order to purchase the field where the treasure is hidden".
2. Luke 9:23 is suggested as Jesus' manifesto. Can you think of any other verses from the Bible which could provide alternative manifesto material? Or could you write your own summary version?
3. How can you make sure you emulate Emile Leger's quote as he left a life of comfort for a leper colony? ("The time for talking is over.")
4. So what's it worth to follow Jesus? If you've already started following him, that's one of the biggest questions left in life for you to wrestle with. Will you "shortchange yourself by opting for anything less than the kingdom of God"? Please don't! God bless you.

Watch the videos at more-than-conquerors.com
For more from Simon, visit simonguillebaud.com

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