



FIGHT



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A research study that was conducted by a reputable organization close to a decade ago found that 4% of this generation would follow Christ. That number is alarming—but to be honest, the first time I heard it I don't know if I truly believed it. I mean, we definitely used it for a cool sermon series and I think we even had a t-shirt made up. However, I don't think anything really changed about our ministry, and nothing much ever came out of the knowledge that this number was a possibility, other than throwing it at people who weren't doing life and ministry the way I thought they should.

In preparing for this study that number came back into my head, and just out of curiosity I decided to do some math. Guess what I found out—based on my best estimates, and even giving a few churches a little padding on their probable enrollment, exactly 4% of the students in our community go to church. I say, “go to church,” because you have to realize that not every church-going kid knows Jesus, so we are actually not even hitting the 4% mark. Granted, based on a variety of factors (community size, demographics, the importance of the church in your community, geographic location, etc.) your numbers may come out a little higher or even a lot higher. But whether you are at 4% or 90% doesn't matter; the reality is there are still lost students, and adults for that matter, around us, and we do not even seem to care—at least not as much as I believe we should. The reality is that the knowledge that someone does not know Jesus and they are living without hope, without purpose, and will spend an eternity in Hell if they die, should keep us awake at night and consume us throughout the day. But somewhere along the way this fact that 4% of this generation—or whatever the number is—will follow Christ barely even gets our attention. We have lost our ability to care and, more importantly I believe, we have lost our desire to FIGHT. Why do I use the word FIGHT? Because Jesus said, “Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.” Granted, Jesus was literally talking about dying for the sins of the world, but we have the same standard. If we truly love the world around us, we should be laying down everything to make sure they know Jesus and follow Him. We should be scratching, clawing, and fighting for the lost souls around us. That's what this study is about—re-awakening our hearts to fight for a lost and dying world around us so that they can come to know Jesus and make Him known. Here is a quick rundown of what we will be fighting for or against:

LESSON 1: FIGHTING FOR FOCUS

LESSON 2: FIGHTING FOR YOUR IDENTITY

LESSON 3: FIGHTING FOR THE GOSPEL

LESSON 4: FIGHTING HELL

LESSON 5: FIGHTING FOR TRUTH

My hope is that through this study the passion of you and your students will be re-awakened and you will FIGHT every single day to ensure that every student in your community comes to know Christ.



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LESSON 1: FIGHTING FOR FOCUS

Read John 15:13.

Read Matthew 22:34-40

1. LOVE _____.

Read John 14:15

2. LOVE _____.

Read Matthew 5:43-45.

3. MAKE _____.

Read Matthew 28:16-19.

4. WE LOVE OTHER _____.

5. WE _____.

Read Matthew 5:29

6. FIGHT TO THE _____.

Read Philippians 2:8



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LESSON 1 DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What needs to refocus in your personal life so you can FIGHT for a lost world around you?
2. What needs to refocus at home with your family so you can FIGHT for a lost world around you?
3. What needs to refocus at school so you can FIGHT for a lost world around you?
4. What needs to refocus in your life in the community so you can FIGHT for a lost world around you?
5. How do you think your student ministry needs to refocus so you can FIGHT and reach more than 4% of your generation?
6. What are the next steps you are going to take?