



FINDING FAITH: Small Group Bible Study inspired the movie by “We Are Stronger”

INTRODUCTION

In *We Are Stronger*, Master Sergeant Vic Raphael returns home from a deployment in Afghanistan carrying wounds that go far deeper than the physical injuries that confine him to a wheelchair. Haunted by what happened, Vic withdraws from his wife Michelle, from his community, and even from God. Yet through the unexpected friendship of two neighborhood kids, the patient love of Michelle, and the gentle work of God on a hardened heart, Vic begins to face his wounds. His story is a testament to the truth that healing is never a solitary battle: real strength is found not in isolation, but in Christ, and in the body of believers He places around us.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

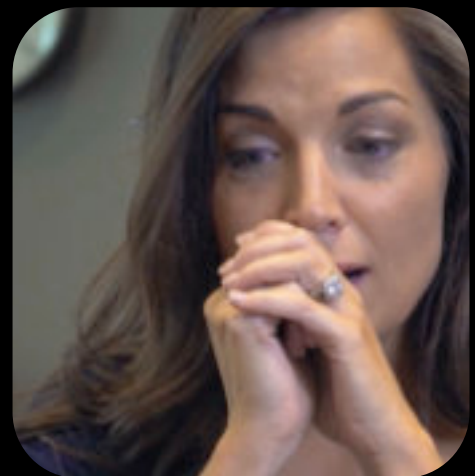
1. UNSPOKEN SUFFERING

- Vic refuses to acknowledge his PTSD, burying his pain rather than bringing it into the light. How does his silence affect not only himself, but his marriage and those who love him?
- Read Psalm 32:3-5. How does David describe the toll of hidden sin and unconfessed pain? What does this passage teach us about the danger of suffering in silence, and the relief that comes from bringing our struggles before God?



2. COVENANT LOVE

- Michelle remains committed to Vic even as their marriage is tested by distance, unmet needs, and outside temptation. What does her perseverance reveal about the nature of covenant love, and where do we see her also needing to lean on God for strength?
- Read Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 and Ephesians 5:25. What do these passages tell us about God's design for marriage as a partnership? How does Christ's sacrificial love for the Church model what Vic and Michelle are called to for one another?



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

3. TRUE HEALING



- The title of the film points to a central truth: that Vic is stronger with support from his loved ones. It is only through the intervention of children, a counselor, and the community around him that he begins to heal. Why do you think Vic resists help for so long, and what finally opens the door?

- Read Galatians 6:2 and Hebrews 10:24-25. How do these passages call believers to bear one another's burdens rather than suffer alone? Why does Scripture treat isolation from community as spiritually dangerous, not merely difficult?

4. GOD UNDERSTANDS OUR PAIN

- The film suggests that Christ Himself understands pain, despair, and trauma. How does Vic's journey toward faith reshape the way he processes his experience of war and loss?

- Read Isaiah 53:3-5 and Hebrews 4:15-16. What comfort do these passages offer to someone carrying deep trauma? How does the doctrine of Christ as "a man of sorrows, acquainted with grief" change the way we approach our own wounds and the wounds of others?



REFLECTION & APPLICATION

Where in your own life have you tried to carry pain, trauma, or struggle in isolation? Who has God placed in your life to help carry that burden? Who might you be called to walk alongside in their own suffering?

Consider one concrete step you can take this week to move from isolation toward community and dependence on Christ.



PRAYER

Close the Bible study with a time of prayer, inviting participants to bring before God any burdens, wounds, or struggles they have been carrying alone.

Pray specifically for veterans, first responders, and their families, and for the courage to seek help and offer it. Pray for one another's healing and for grace to live in genuine Christian community rather than isolation.



CONCLUSION

Like Vic, none of us are meant to fight our battles alone. Scripture is clear that we are members of one body, called to bear one another's burdens and find our strength in Christ, who Himself bore our griefs. Encourage each other to be part of community, to bring their wounds honestly before God, and to lean into the community of believers He has provided.

