

3. Knowing you are loved and unique can transform your life- Resource Sheet

1. YouTube film-The Butterfly Circus (Click on picture below- 22mins)
2. Background information on the film.
3. Questions for discussion.
4. Group work/ Pair work.
5. YouTube clip on Nic Vujicic – motivational video
6. Questions on clip.

Background Information:

Video Clip: The Butterfly Circus

The Butterfly Circus is set in the height of the Great Depression and tells the story of a kind and generous ringleader Mr Mendez from a renowned circus as he guides his entertaining troupe through the devastated American landscape, lifting the spirits of impoverished people along the way. During their travels they discover a man named Will (Nick Vujicic) without any limbs at a competing carnival's sideshow. They reach out to the "man who God Himself has turned His back upon," and soon, the outcast of a man joins their circus.

Introducing the Clip:

I want to show you a short film; it's not a movie clip. It's called **The Butterfly Circus**, and it stars Nic Vujicic (voy chick), an Australian who was born without any arms or legs. You may have even seen his videos circulating the web.

Introduce the characters to the students writing names on the board so they can refer to them later.

The Butterfly Circus- Click on image below:



Discussion Questions

1. As we begin, let's all take a moment to share our favourite aspect of the circus.
2. How do you think Will felt when he was part of the sideshow in the first circus?
3. The barker introduced Will as "the man whom God Himself has turned His back upon." Do you think that's true?
4. In the film, Will stowed away in Mr. Mendez's *Butterfly Circus*. What differences did Will discover between the two circuses?
5. How did Will change after he joined *The Butterfly Circus*?
6. In what ways did some of the other circus performers change when they joined *The Butterfly Circus*?
7. In what ways did Will begin to positively affect the lives of others?
8. What made Will change?
9. Through Mr. Mendez's love and kindness, Will and the others became changed people. Do you know of anyone this happened to?
10. Can you think of a time this happened to you?

Group/Pair Work (give students a very specific time and assign roles)

Will's life was changed after he met Mr. Mendez and joined *The Butterfly Circus*.

When we are shown love and respect, we can become the best versions of ourselves!

What is an allegory? Explain- story with hidden meaning

Questions for discussion:

1. Is this story an allegory for anything? (Christian Themes)
2. Why do you think it's called the Butterfly Circus?

YouTube Clip – Nic Vujicic:

In real life Will's character, Nic Vujicic, is an inspiration to many people. Click on picture below and watch this clip on his life and discuss the questions that follow:



1. What is the thing that struck you the most about this Clip?
2. Nic said there are 3 things which you need to know and if you don't you are more disabled than him;
 1. Who you are and what your value is.
 2. What your purpose is in this life.
 3. What is your destiny when you are done here.

Reflection Time:

Take a few minutes by yourself to answer these questions. Write them down.

In the Butterfly Circus we see how Will's life is transformed because someone else loved him – Mr. Mendez in this example. Will was able to live a life that was completely different from the one he'd always know.

3. In real life what is it that transformed Nic's life?



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