

KILLING CRYPTONITE

DESTROY WHAT
STEALS YOUR STRENGTH

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

If you're reading this book as part of the *Killing Kryptonite* study or course (which is a really great idea!), I recommend that you watch each week's video lesson and unpack the corresponding discussion questions as a group. The video lessons will parallel and amplify major themes from this book, so it's ideal for all participants to both watch the lessons and read the book.

Enjoy!

Lesson 1: Our Potential

Highlights themes from chapters 1–3

1. You won't be motivated to tap into any potential you are unaware of. How have you seen this principle to be true in your life? What new products, technologies, or beliefs have you embraced after you found out what they could do for you? How is this similar to what you learned in this lesson?
2. Our potential in God includes nearly unimaginable possibilities. How did this lesson inspire you to explore the potential of your

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identity in Christ? What are some areas where you've been thinking too small?

3. Why do you think our potential in Christ is not commonly taught in churches today? How do you think the church would change if we were taught to believe all this was possible? As you meditate on these possibilities, how are they beginning to change you?
4. When we fall so far short of what we as Christians could be, it affects how the world views both Christianity and God. How would the world look at Christians differently if we did fulfill our potential? How would they look at God differently if we fulfilled our potential?

Lesson 2: The Power of One

Highlights themes from chapters 4–7

1. Paul writes that because the Corinthians didn't honor the body of Christ, many among them were weak, sick, and even dying prematurely. This still applies to us today, and it says it affected *many*. How is this different from what you have been taught about the church—the body of Christ? Why is this important for all believers to understand today?
2. Many in the body of Christ fail to reach their potential because of known sin in the church, but this is not the only reason Christians get sick, die prematurely, or are weak. Why is it so important to make this distinction? What are some of the other reasons for afflictions within the church?
3. In the West we have very individualistic mindsets, yet we see that when Achan sinned against God, all of Israel was affected because they were one body. How does this truth affect the way you view your role within the body of Christ?

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4. Spiritual kryptonite is known sin. Achan knew it was wrong to take spoils for himself, and the Corinthians knew their drunkenness, gluttony, and selfishness during communion were also sin. Both instances caused weakness and death among those who did nothing wrong. Why do you think God takes sin in His body so seriously? Why do you think He wants us to place such a high value, not just on the individual believer, but on the body as a whole?

Lesson 3: Kryptonite

Highlights themes from chapters 8–10

1. Can you imagine a situation like Justin and Angela's actually happening? Of course you can't. But what similarities do you see to how some Christians treat their relationships with God? How would you respond to someone treating their spouse that way? How would you respond to someone treating God that way?
2. Known sin is spiritual kryptonite, and spiritual kryptonite is idolatry. What does it mean that so many churchgoers are actually worshiping idols? What does idolatry look like in a nation that doesn't bow down to statues and idols?
3. Idolatry is not something that's commonly taught in most churches. What stood out to you the most from what you learned in this lesson about idolatry? Why do you think that stood out to you the most?
4. Consistently throughout Scripture, God equates idolatry with adultery. In your own words, why do you think God does this? What does it say about the relationship He offers us?
5. Idolatry begins by worshiping creation rather than its Creator. What is God's response to this behavior? Why would God distance Himself from those who don't choose Him? Why do you think an affinity

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toward homosexuality is a telltale sign that a society has embraced idolatry?

6. If we're going to recognize idolatry, we have to understand true worship. True worship is obedience to God's commands, not singing a slow song. How does this understanding of worship change the way you think about Christian living? Who have you seen in your life who has given you the best example of a lifestyle of worshiping God?

Lesson 4: Modern Idolatry

Highlights themes from chapters 11–14

1. The story of Saul's disobedience when saving some of the Amalekites shows us the root of idolatry in the church. How is Saul's covetousness equal to idolatry?
2. Samuel told Saul that stubbornness is the same as idolatry. This is when we cling to what we want over what God has declared to be His will. And, as we see in Saul's life, it opened the door to much greater sin in his life. How is this idolatry? Why does it lead to greater sins?
3. Covetousness is what leads us into idolatry and, in fact, is idolatry in itself. But contentment is what leads to godliness. When you look at your own goals, priorities, and habits, which would you say is stronger in your life—covetousness or contentment? How can you pursue a life of greater contentment?
4. While contentment is necessary in every Christian's life, we cannot confuse it with complacency. In your own words, how are these two different? How would you know if someone was content, but not complacent?

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5. Another important clarification to remember is that idolatry is never when a believer falls into sin, but only when they are given over to sin. According to all you've learned so far in these lessons, how can you tell the difference between these two?
6. If we're going to understand that willful sin is spiritual kryptonite, we have to also understand that God offers us a completely new life with a new nature—His nature. Have you realized that it's possible to not be prone to sin, but to instead be prone to righteousness? How does it make you feel to know this transformation is possible—and even expected of your life?

Lesson 5: A Knockoff Jesus

Highlights themes from chapters 15–18

1. God's purpose in saving you was to bring you to Himself. He wants to be in intimate relationship with you. This requires you to wash yourself of the things of the world, because He wants an authentic relationship with you. What does this mean? How can you know that you have done this?
2. Imagine God's disappointment when people He longs to bring to Himself refuse to come to Him, even after they claim to be saved by Him. How would you feel if you married someone, but they refused to be in the same room as you? What if they wouldn't even talk on the phone with you? What if they would only relate to you through another person? What sort of relationship would you have with them after all that?
3. Aaron remained in the camp, so we might say he was more comfortable in the camp with the people than in the presence of God on the mountain. Some people are this way—more comfortable in church

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than in God's presence. How do you respond when you sense God's presence?

4. Israel had a high priest, declared *Yahweh* had delivered them from Egypt, and worshipped *Yahweh* with burnt offerings and sacrifices, all the while focusing this attention toward a golden calf—all for the sake of pursuing their own desires. If Israel could declare all these things with the right name, yet still have false, abominable worship, can today's church do the same? What would that look like?
5. Israel obeyed some of God's commandments, but neglected others. Churches all over the world do this same thing, choosing passages they like while ignoring the ones that challenge us to live holy lives, fully devoted to God. How can we know we are worshiping the true Jesus, not a knockoff Jesus?

Lesson 6: The Starting Place

Highlights themes from chapters 19–21

How did a knockoff *Yahweh* evolve in Israel, and how does a knockoff Jesus evolve in the church? Both are the result of a hardened heart from the absence of true repentance.

1. This lesson covers a lot about repentance—the necessity of it, its role in the gospel, and what it really means. How was this similar to or different from the way you've thought about repentance in the past? Does this change the way you think about the gospel? If so, how?
2. Every gospel begins with the story of John the Baptist, who preached repentance from sins. This means the gospel of Jesus always begins with repentance. How do you feel about this statement? Why is repentance so important to the gospel?

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3. There is no true faith in Jesus Christ without repentance from known sin. If we cling to sin and claim to be Christians, then we are deceived. Why do you think God would care so much about how we live?
4. Remember the story of Justin and Angela, how Angela had no idea she was supposed to leave her boyfriends behind when she got married? How are all these people who don't know Jesus supposed to know they need to repent unless we tell them? What might happen to us if we tell people to stop sinning? Why is it important to count the cost of sharing the full gospel?
5. We are defined by our actions, not by our intentions. This shows the power of the gospel, that it can transform our entire person. How does this show that repentance is a positive and good thing? In your own words, explain how God's requirement for repentance is actually His mercy to us.

Lesson 7: Truth, Tolerance & Love

Highlights themes from chapters 22–24

1. Jude wanted to write about the wonder of our salvation—or the nice things—but had to warn his audience about people who were turning God's grace into a license for sin. In your own life, have you allowed yourself to neglect God's warnings, only saying the nice things? Why is it important for you to keep the warnings a part of your life and speech?
2. The reason the church has become tolerant toward sin is that we have a misguided understanding of what true love is. True love requires the truth, and the truth is always an eternal perspective. How does keeping an eternal perspective change what is important in your life?

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3. The love of God means obeying God's commands. This is what distinguishes Christian love from worldly love. Without God's commands, how would you describe any difference between God's love and the world's love?
4. Love without the truth of God attached to it is not true love—it's a counterfeit. Our culture is walking away from this love, and that is why the church is motivated toward a knockoff Jesus. How do you feel about speaking the truth in love? Why do you think so many people are uncomfortable with the truth?

Lesson 8: Killing Kryptonite

Highlights themes from chapters 25–28

1. Some believers overlook sin because they are unaware of the reality that their sin hurts God's heart. Other Christians believe the lie that we are just sinners by nature and the blood of Jesus is powerful enough to set us free from the penalty of sin, but cannot free us from the bondage of sin. These are the believers with kryptonite—known, practiced sin. How has either of these beliefs influenced your life? How have you seen them influence other professing believers?
2. A third group of believers are genuine Christians who knowingly sin, but for them it is a constant struggle. They want to get out, but have not yet discovered from God's Word how to live free from sin. The shame of their sin holds them in their sin. What truths from this lesson would you share with a believer in this condition?
3. In this lesson, I share from my testimony of how God set me free from lust and pornography. What inspired you the most from this testimony? Why? What challenged you the most? Why?
4. Freedom from sin comes from godly sorrow, not from worldly sorrow. Godly sorrow recognizes the pain our sin causes God, but

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worldly sorrow is only worried about how our sin affects us and our future. Why do you think God would only release grace to set us free with one kind of sorrow, but not the other? How would you tell the difference between these two sorrows in your own life?

5. So many superhero stories capture our imaginations because they connect with a longing in every human heart. The early believers were the superhumans of their day. How can we become the superhumans of our day? How would this change the way the world thinks about God?
6. God is a warrior, and we were created to be like Him. Jesus called all seven churches in Revelation to overcome, which means we are called to victory and we have an enemy to overcome. As you reflect on this entire message, how has it changed the way you think about what God calls you to overcome in this life? How has it changed the way you view yourself, other believers, and the church as a whole?