

**THE  
FIGHT**  
**LUKE WORDLEY**

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Sam's behavior in much of *The Fight* is violent and antisocial. Yet most readers find themselves empathizing with him and rooting for him. Would you feel supportive of him if you only saw his behavior and didn't know his background? There may be people around you whose behavior is similar to Sam's, yet you know little about them. Do you think your lack of knowledge influences how you feel about them? What steps can you take to avoid judging people before you get to know them?
2. What kind of a role model is Jerry? Do you believe his personal struggles or his crisis of faith should disqualify him from his mentoring role? Why or why not?
3. In your opinion, are boxing, martial arts, or other combat pursuits appropriate activities in which to encourage children—or Christians in general—to participate? Discuss your reasoning.
4. What lies at the heart of Jerry's ambition? If you were in his position, would you make similar decisions? Does

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personal ambition always bring us into conflict with God's plans for our lives and with those around us? Are there areas of your own life where your ambition may be getting in the way of God's plans for you—and if so, how should you respond?

5. Do you think Jerry and Gloria enjoy a strong marriage? What do you admire in them individually? And together?
6. The ending of the book—and, in particular, the climactic last fight—have sparked considerable debate. Do you think the author chose the right ending for the book, or do you wish the book (and the final fight) would have ended differently?
7. In between writing the first and second half of *The Fight*, Luke Wordley suffered stress-related depression and a crisis of faith (see his testimony at [www.lukewordley.com](http://www.lukewordley.com)). Since recovering, Luke believes God has helped him use this difficult time in his life to write about Jerry's journey with greater authenticity, in turn helping others who may be going through similar experiences. Has anything like this ever happened in your own life? Are there difficult experiences in your past that God may be able to use to bless others?
8. Though the story is fictional, *The Fight* contains characters with realistic struggles in hard situations. While reading this book, were there any characters or situations with which you could identify on a personal level? If so, explain.