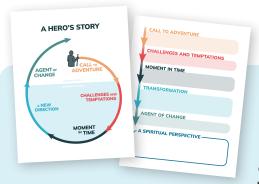
### HOW TO USE A HERO'S STORY



A Hero's Story is a way to understand the patterns of growth in your life and other people. Throughout our lives we begin new adventures and

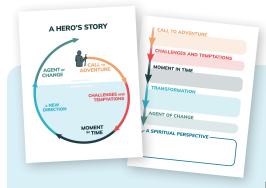
callings that bring us face to face with difficulties, challenges, and temptations. We are forced to reexamine who we are, our direction in life, and reaffirm or discontinue our values and faith. Ultimately, we hope to find a path that can set us off in a better way, a way that can inspire and encourage others. James talks about the role of trials in our lives and the good it can bring about.

We see this pattern in stories, legends, and movies. As we listen to the stories of students, we notice the cycle in their lives too. This is where A Hero Story can help us interact with students and connect them to the life of Jesus. Are they going through difficulties? Are they in despair or nearly there? Jesus faced temptations and death. He knows what it is like. Yet he overcame them and can help them as well. This is good news.

#### Because he (Jesus Christ) suffered...he is able to help those who are being tempted. -Heb 2:18

A Hero's Story handout can give you and your friend a path to explore what is happening in their life and the hope that Jesus can bring to them. Use it with individuals and in groups to discuss their heroes, and to connect our personal stories with the story and hope of Jesus.

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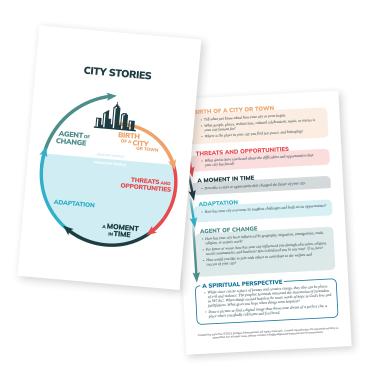
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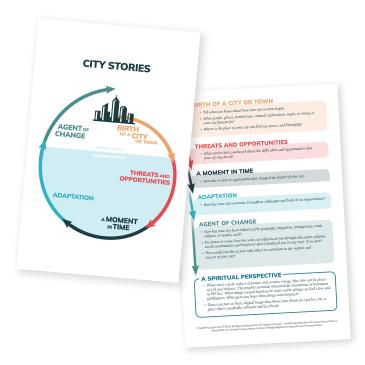
## HOW TO USE CITY STORIES



People grow up in cities and towns that influence them for good and bad. It is there they learn about evil but also where they learn about beauty. City Stories helps one discern a student's spiritual history and interest. It gives a window into where they find hope. Read the questions in groups of three and invite the participant to choose one they want to answer.

The beauty of A Hero's Story and City Stories is that people usually like to talk about them. The conversation flows easily and naturally as we, through love, show genuine interest in them. Use them with your friends, small group, or to engage in conversation with people that are new to you.

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