

Watch the short film “The Butterfly Circus” here: <https://vimeo.com/17150524>

Synopsis: At the height of the Great Depression, the showman of a renowned circus discovers a man without limbs being exploited at a carnival sideshow, but after an intriguing encounter with the showman he becomes driven to hope against everything he has ever believed.



Directed by: Joshua Weigel; Written by: Joshua Weigel & Rebekah Weigel; Produced by: Joshua Weigel, Rebekah Weigel & Angie Alvarez; Starring: Eduardo Verastegui (Bella, Chasing Papi), Nick Vujicic (Life Without Limbs) & Doug Jones (Pan's Labyrinth, Fantastic Four - Rise of the Silver Surfer, Hellboy)

### Questions for Discussion/Reflection:

- What does Will believe about himself at the beginning of the film? At the end? Have you experienced something that changed how you view yourself, for better or for worse? What was it?
- Are there any comparisons you can make between The Butterfly Circus and your school or place of work? Are there people you know who struggle to realize their value? Is there anything from this movie that can give you new insight into your role at school or work?
- Mr. Mendez says, “I think you’ll manage” to Will when he is obviously floundering. Why? Has anyone ever let you struggle to figure something out yourself? How did you feel once you had done it?
- Although this is not a “Christian” movie, one reviewer wrote about the film: “Seeing it unfold from any other than a spiritual perspective would do it great disservice.” What do you think they mean—and do you agree?