

CHAPTER 8

A MATTER OF PERSPECTIVE



Biblical Lessons for Students, Athletes & More

FOCAL VERSE

So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

2 Corinthians 4:18 (NIV)



CHAPTER 8 - GROUP EXPERIENCE A MATTER OF PERSPECTIVE

Introduction

- Before reading chapter eight, have each person write down a specific challenge they are currently facing. It can be related to basketball, another sport, a relationship, their home life, etc. At the end of class, we will revisit these challenges.
- **LEAD PRAYER:** Have group members place a hand over their handwritten challenge while you voice a prayer about these situations, using 2 Corinthians 4:18 as a guide.
- READ through the quotes on perspective on page 50. **Which quote speaks to your heart most?**

Page 51

- After reading the first paragraph, show the optical illusions provided (or provide your own). **Ask your group what they see?**
- In the scenario on page 51, there are two different responses: "That's not fair, " and "It's okay, just think of it as a victory lap!" **Which response is most in line with your character?**

Page 52

- After reading Romans 5:3-4, (second paragraph) ask:
 - **Can you think of a past experience that seemed negative at the time, but looking back, ended up producing more character and hope in your life?**

Page 53

- After reading Donna's reply, "No, my cup is overflowing," ask:
 - **Why do you think Donna was able to have this perspective, even in the midst of her biggest battle and greatest darkness?**

FOLLOW UP FROM SESSION 7:

- Were you more intentional about reading God's Word this past week than you were in previous weeks?
- Is anyone willing to share a note you took during your Bible reading time; something you felt was personal and just for you?

CHAPTER 8



WHAT DO
YOU SEE?

Leader:

OPTIONAL: Prior to class, gather examples of optical illusions that may generate differing perspectives. What does your group see? (I've provided two examples for you).

Pages 53 & 54



There is much to learn from *each* perspective, so whether you're a player, coach, or parent, take time to read through each application.

PLAYER APPLICATION

- Encourage the group to look for opportunities to *practice* a positive perspective everyday.

COACH APPLICATION

- American filmmaker, Alex Kendrick, received a direct word from the Lord: "*Alex, would you rather have an easier road with less fruit or a harder road with more fruit?*"
- **What is meant by "fruit?" Give examples.**
- **If God asked you this question, how would you respond?**

PARENT APPLICATION

"A negative attitude limits our opportunities; a positive perspective increases our confidence which opens the door for greatness."

- **Has a negative attitude ever limited your opportunities, or the opportunities of someone you know?**
- **Conversely, have you ever seen a positive attitude open the door for opportunity, when someone else may have been in line for that opportunity, or even more skilled?**

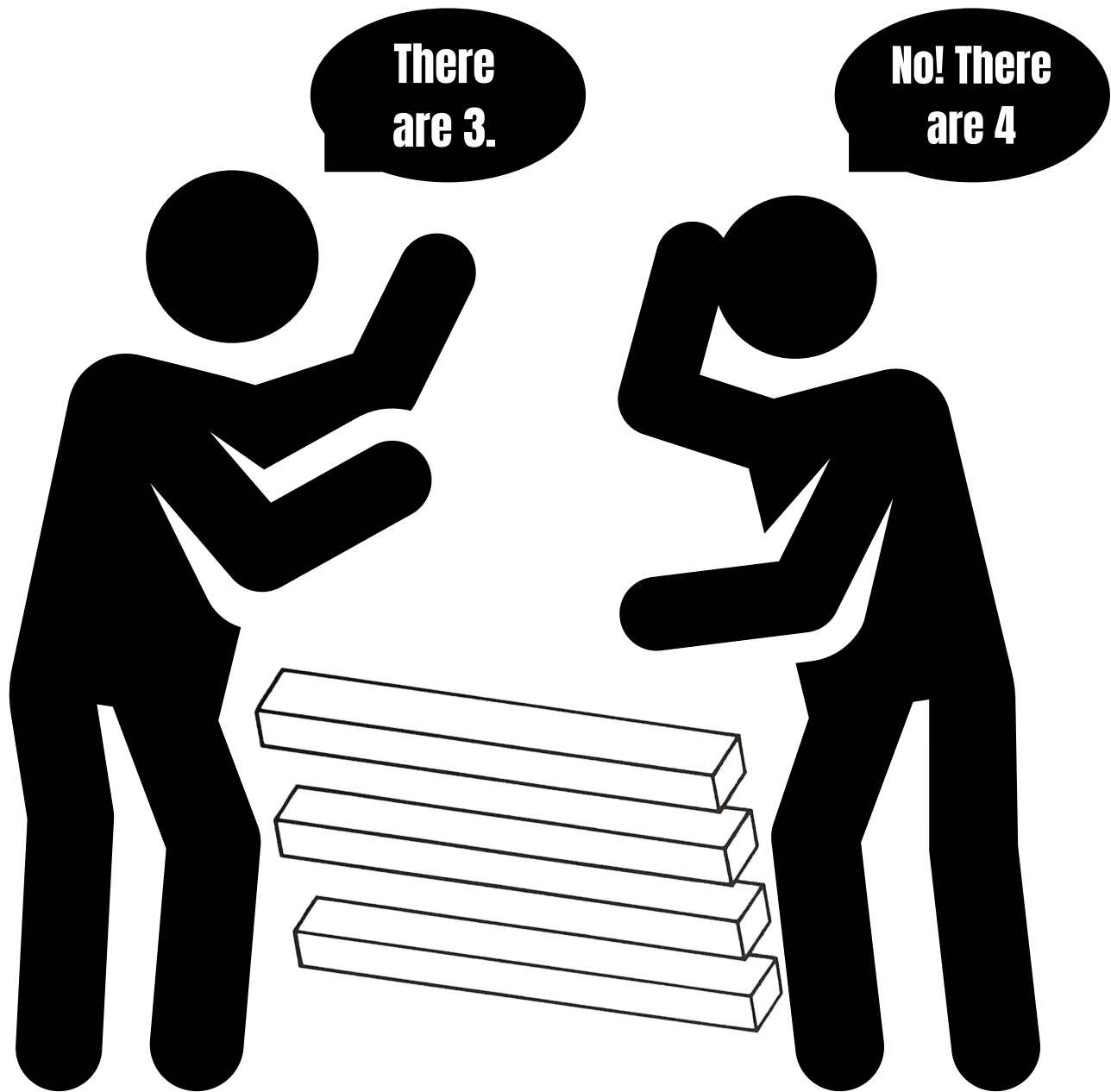
PERSONAL TRAINING SECTION

- Complete the personal training section by answering the questions provided.44

CLOSING

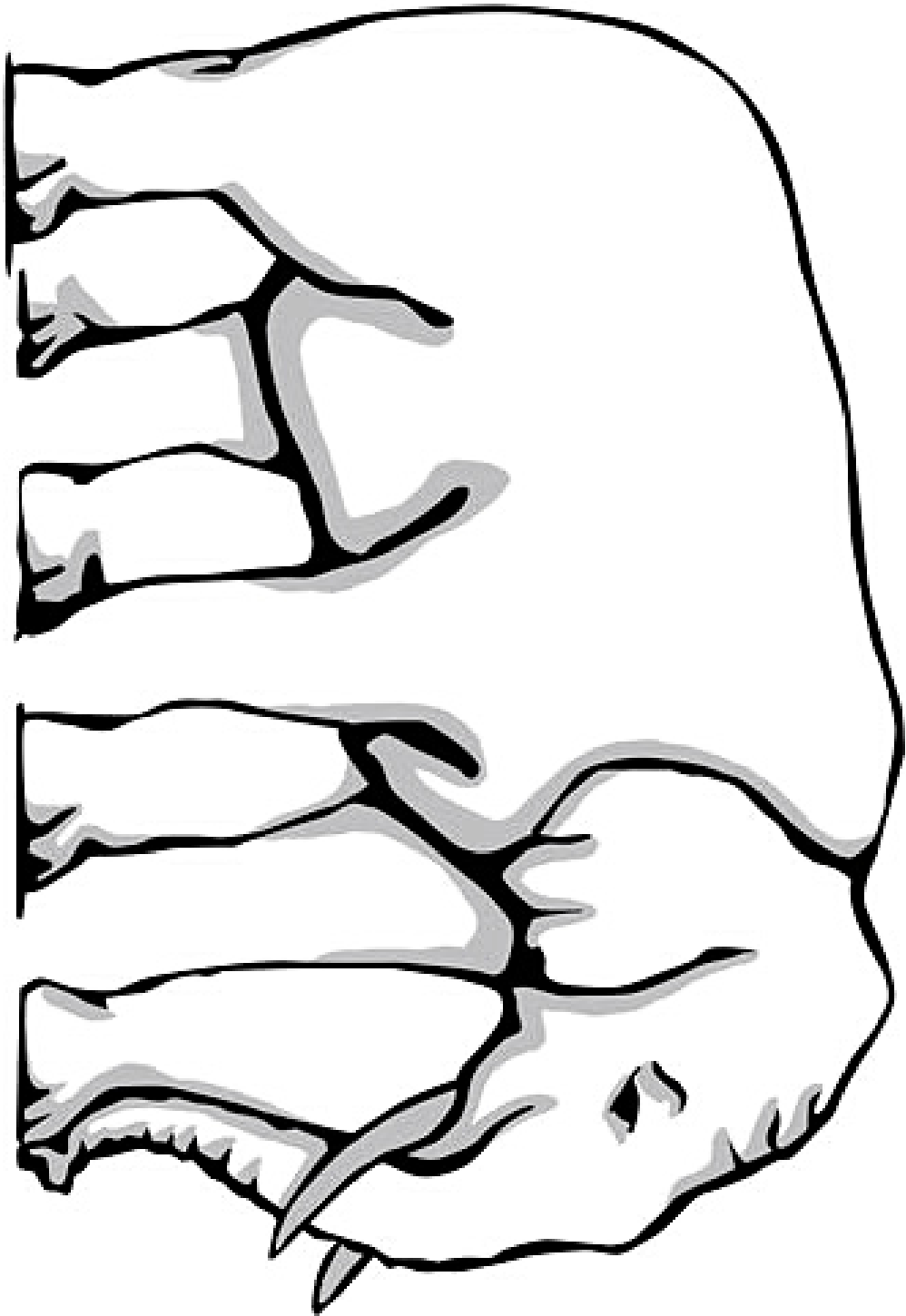
- Revisit the challenges the group members wrote down at the beginning of class. **Based on today's lesson, ask for volunteers to share how they might be able to view their situation through a different lens now—a new perspective.**
- Have someone close today's session by reading the post-game prayer on page 55.

PERSPECTIVE



Who is right?

PERSPECTIVE



How many legs do you see?