

# youth evangelist uses in-your-face tactics

**PARAMUS, NJ**—Justin Fatica says shock tactics are the best way to grab kids' attention. So when he speaks to them about Jesus, he's passionate, aggressive, and brutally honest. Through his Hard As Nails ministry, Fatica, 29, screams at and humiliates teenagers, hoping to "motivate" them into Christianity. The drill-sergeant approach, he says, is part of his effort to raise up "warriors for the Lord."

Fatica asks an audience member to hit him in the back with a metal chair while he describes the suffering Jesus endured for us. "If you sin, you better have the courage to

bash Jesus' face in!" Fatica yells. He also tells girls they're fat to point out how hurtful it is to categorize people. Hard As Nails, which strives to "bring the message of Jesus Christ in intense and

dynamic ways," was recently featured in an HBO documentary. Director David Holbrook says Fatica has "a real message of love" but worries that people might take his tactics too far.

**Sources:** *Newsweek*, [abcnews.go.com](http://abcnews.go.com), [hanm.org](http://hanm.org)



How do you think kids feel after hearing Fatica's message? Could this ministry's aggressive approach be effective for some? Why or why not? Jesus got really hot with the Pharisees sometimes—do screaming and intimidation have a place in the Christian life? Is it okay to scare or humiliate people to make an important point? Why or why not?

Was Jesus an in-your-face evangelist? Explain. How did he confront people about their sins? Do we need to be made aware of our sins before we realize we need a Savior? If so, how should that happen?

When you sin, do you ever consider how it makes God feel? If so, explain. What motivates you to have a relationship with Jesus? Do you view yourself as a "warrior" for God? Why or why not?

**Scripture links:** Isaiah 53:3-7; Matthew 21:12-13; John 8:1-11; Romans 3:9-20; and 1 John 4:18.



Watch the YouTube video at the official [hanm.org](http://hanm.org) site.