



# Pop goes CATHOLICISM Resource Sheet

## Iron Man (1 of 2: Salvation Through Sacrifice)

### Media Information

Rating:

PG-13

Year:

2008

Director:

Jon Favreau

Stars:

Robert Downey Jr  
Gwyneth Paltrow

### Clip Description

Timing: 33:25-38:40

**Movie Description:**  
After billionaire arms dealer Tony Stark is kidnapped by terrorists, he builds a suit of armor that allows him to be a superhero.

**Clip Description:**  
In order to help Stark escape, Jensen (the doctor who saved his life & helped him build the armor) sacrifices himself to give Stark time to boot up.

### Faith Connection

Sometimes I find it hard to really relate to the idea that Jesus saved me by his sacrifice on the cross 2000 years ago. It's just a bit remote for those of us who live in a time that nearly beatifies evidence, experience, and immediacy. And yet, I think Jensen provides a good modern day equivalent that symbolically brings it a bit closer: he gave up his life for Tony, literally allowing Tony to live while he himself died (and knew it leaving their cell). Tony responds the only way that makes sense: "Thanks for saving me." And Jensen's reply: "Don't waste it. Don't waste your life." The same goes for Jesus; we need to reply "thanks for saving me," because Jesus went to his death knowing he was going to die and did it so that we could live and not waste our lives. We were trapped in the terrorist camp of sinfulness, despair, separation from God. Jesus took the bullets that got us out and asks in return "don't waste it."

### Discussion Questions

1. What do you think wasting your life looks like?
2. How much of your life are you wasting?
3. What do you need to do to waste less of your life?
4. Do you feel grateful to Jesus for his sacrifice or is it still remote to you? Why?
5. How do you express your gratitude for Jesus' sacrifice? How do you live that gratitude?

### Related

#### Scripture:

John 15:12-13  
Romans 5:8-11

#### Catechism:

#621-622  
#1699

