

“The 40-Yard Dash vs the 200-Mile Ultra-Relay”
Hebrews 12:12-17

Ice Breaker:

What is the longest distance you have ever run? Do you enjoy running or would you rather not?

At this moment, do you relate more with the person who is weary and tired in need of being strengthened, or who is strong, energetic and prepared to strengthen and encourage others? Explain.

Read: Hebrews 12:12-17

1. In what ways is the Christian walk like a long-distance relay race?
2. What are some advantages of living in Christian community? What are some challenges?
3. Share a time when someone has strengthened or encouraged you when you were weak or in need?
4. What does it look like to make straight paths? (Look at Proverbs 4:10ff and Hebrews 12:1)
5. Who is someone God has placed in your life where you have the opportunity to: strengthen or encourage? Make straight paths? or pursue peace?
6. What benefits have you personally seen from having an accountability partner? What prevents you from having an accountability partner? (LIFE Groups may be a good connecting point for accountability relationships.)
7. What are some ways you can address bitterness and not let it take root?
8. Why do you think the author of Hebrews uses Esau as the example of someone who was godless? (see Genesis 25:27-34) How was Esau being short-sighted in the Genesis account?
9. How can you have a long-view of the Christian walk instead of being short-sighted?

Spend time praying for one another.

Consider deep relational connection through increased commitment in LIFE groups, accountability groups with the church or the Side-by-Side mentoring program.

October 8, 2017

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1. The Christian Race is a Community Event

- Strengthen (12:12)
- Straighten (12:13)
- Pursue Peace (12:14)

2. Danger of short-sightedness

- Missing the grace of God (12:15)
- The root of bitterness (12:15)
- Impurity (12:16-17)