



## Discussion Questions for the week of August 21, 2016

### BIG IDEA:

The Summer Olympics have made us look in excitement and awe as athletes compete on the greatest stage. We are amazed at their discipline and watch wondering if we could ever be at such a level. Paul challenges us to run the race to obtain the imperishable prize – Jesus. We want to help you run the race on a team with others all for God's glory. Will you do what it takes to discipline yourself spiritually for whatever God calls you to this year?

### ICE BREAKER:

If you could compete in an Olympic event, what would it be?

*Spend some time talking about summer break and all the fun that happened.*

### DISCUSSION:

1. Read 1 Corinthians 9:24-27. How is the athletic analogy Paul uses like the Christian life?
2. What are spiritual disciplines you consistently practice or see people in your small group do really well? Where did you grow in spiritual discipline this summer? (Camp, Dallas Experience, Family time, time with the Lord, etc.)
3. What are "perishable" prizes that you tend to chase, and how can we as a small group help you pursue Christ first?
4. What are ways you tend to "run aimlessly" spiritually instead of intentionally training in righteousness?
5. Read Hebrews 12:1-2. What does it look like for someone to "fix your eyes on Jesus"?
6. Do you see Jesus as the prize that motivates you to discipline yourself for the Christian life, or do you try to discipline yourself because you feel like you have to? How?

### APPLICATION:

7. How do you want to challenge yourself to grow spiritually this year? Be specific.
8. This year, we want to help you run the race – we as leaders and as a smaller want to help you grow in your relationship Christ. How can we as your team (small group) help you reach your goals?

**We want to help you run the race on a team with others all for God's glory**