



EYES ON THE PRIZE

ENGAGE

WELCOME

Make the students feel welcomed, wanted and seen.

Shake hands, give high-fives, write name tags, and connect them to other students.

ICEBREAKER (INTERACTIVE OR VERBAL)

Play a game with the Huddle or discuss the following to kick things off:

- *Imagine your wildest dream is guaranteed to happen. You don't know how long it will take and you know the journey will be challenging, but you're promised it will come true. What dream or goal would you pursue?*

(Option) Think - Pair - Share: Think about last week's challenge. How did it go? Pair with the person next to you and share any wins or thoughts from the previous week.

READ: Hebrews 12:1-2

“Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us. We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, the champion who initiates and perfects our faith. Because of the joy awaiting Him, He endured the cross, disregarding its shame. Now He is seated in the place of honor beside God's throne.”

EQUIP

SAY: In Hebrews 12, this “cloud of witnesses” is a group of men and women who testified with their entire lives (by how they spoke and acted) that God is real and worthy to be followed. Because of their testimony to Christ, the author encourages Christians to run their race of faith with endurance, getting rid of any sin or distraction that would inhibit their ability to run well. We are encouraged to fix our eyes on Jesus, who chose to endure great pain for the sake of our joy and salvation.

Serena Williams is currently known as the most successful tennis player of all time, having won 22 majors. Years before her time, pioneers in the realm of women's tennis believed that women should be given equal opportunity to compete and endured great hardship to see it happen. Today, Serena is known as the best of the best, but she still

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experiences severe scrutiny. Her body is criticized, her style judged, and her race often belittled. Serena knows the voices are around her, and sometimes they affect her. But in order to maintain her goal of being the greatest female tennis player in history, Serena chooses to be wise about what she listens to and how she thinks. She focuses on what will help make her great and counts her goal worthy of all the hardship she has and will face.

Just as Serena keeps her eyes on her highest goals in tennis, Jesus shows us what it looks like to keep our eyes fixed on the ultimate prize. He lived the perfect life. Even after being beaten and nailed to a cross for crimes He didn't commit, Jesus never took His eyes off the prize of saving us from our sin. He even considered it a joy to endure the most brutal death imaginable so that our relationship with God could be repaired through Him. Nothing could cause Him to waiver in reaching this goal. Because of His example, we can follow him and endure hardship because of the reality that as Christians our greatest prize is in heaven with Him.

INTENTIONAL CONVERSATION

The win of a Huddle is empowering key leaders to create an environment in a sports community where the gospel is made known and lived out through intentional conversation. Spend time in small groups discussing the following questions:

1. What are you most motivated by on a daily basis?
2. How often are your eyes fixed on Jesus and following Him?
3. If your eyes were fixed on Jesus, how might your life and speech be different?
4. What can you do to grow in keeping Jesus at the forefront of your mind?

EMPOWER CHALLENGE

SAY: Think of one area of your life where fixing your eyes on Jesus would greatly affect your thoughts, speech, and actions. Spend this week focused on growing in that area and be ready to share next week!

PRAYER

Break the Huddle. Invite the students to come back next week to engage with one another.

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