



BETTER ATHLETES
BETTER PEOPLE

Discussion Guide: Race

Young Jesse Owens becomes a track and field sensation while attending the Ohio State University in the early 1930s. With guidance from coach Larry Snyder, Owens gains national recognition for breaking numerous records. After heated debates, the United States decides not to boycott the Olympics in Nazi Germany. Overcoming racism at home and abroad, Owens seizes the opportunity to show Berlin and the world that he's the fastest man alive.

Take advantage of the teachable moments presented in *Race* by using these questions to help guide a discussion with your team or children.

- 1.) Early in the movie, one man says that politics has no place in sports? Is this true or not, or does it depend on the situation?
- 2.) How is Coach Snyder more than just a coach? How does he influence Jessie's personal life off the field too?
- 3.) How does the mood of the crowd change when Jesse Owens starts winning and breaking records?
- 4.) Jessie has the option of backing away and not participating or showing that he's stronger than the oppressors and participating. Which is a better way of fighting the cause?
- 5.) How does coach Snyder act as a positive mentor for Jessie? How does Snyder protect Jessie from many challenges he faces?
- 6.) What is the deeper significance of Hitler not shaking his hands with Jessie?
- 7.) How does Luz Long show an example of being a competitor and respecting the game after giving Jessie advice and later circling the track with him?
- 8.) How do Jesse's actions in the movie fit PCA's slogan of "Better Athletes, Better People"?

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