Discussion Guide: The Legend of Bagger Vance

The Legend of Bagger Vance follows the story of Rannulph Junuh, a golfer seeking to get his career back on track despite the mental stresses of the Great Depression and the past trauma of World War I. This film includes themes of mental preparation and focus in sports, coping with societal pressure, overcoming struggle, trusting your coach as a player, respecting your opponents, and honoring the game.

Take advantage of the teachable moments presented in The Legend of Bagger Vance by using these questions to help guide a discussion with your team or children.

1.) What steps does Bagger Vance take to help get Rannulph Junuh’s life and golf game back on track?

2.) What are some mental tips suggested by Bagger that help Junuh overcome his personal demons and mental block?

3.) How does the game of golf help Junuh recover from the trauma of World War I?

4.) When Junuh disregards Bagger’s advice, he tends to play poorly. What does this indicate about trusting your coach as an athlete?

5.) With a chance to win the tournament, Junuh calls a penalty stroke on himself. Is this kind of integrity important? What would you have done in that situation?

6.) When Bagger leaves Junuh at the end of the match, what does this indicate about Junuh’s character? Has he matured? Is this why Bagger left?

7.) Golf tends to be known as a game where opponents respect each other. Is that true in this film as well? Is that important in just golf or for all sports?