**Discussion Guide: *We Are Marshall***

*We Are Marshall*, based on a true story, follows the story of the 1971 Marshall University football team and coach Jack Lengyel’s efforts to rebuild the Thundering Herd football team and the Marshall community after all 75 players and coaches died in a horrific plane crash the season before. This film includes themes of overcoming tragedy and loss, using sports to heal a community, playing multiple sports, absolute dedication, and effective teamwork.

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

1.) What is Coach Lengyel’s biggest challenge in rebuilding the Marshall University team?

2.) Marshall loses several prospects to West Virginia because of the accident. This is one of many challenges. How does the team and coach respond to this?

3.) Coach Lengyel recruits players who played other sports to join his program. Is this effective? Do their overall athletic talents translate to football?

4.) How do the efforts, not on the scoreboard, help heal the devastated West Virginian community?

5.) Was it the correct response to continue moving forward with the football program after the accident? How would you respond to this tragedy?

6.) Marshall eventually became a powerhouse football program again, recruiting the likes of Randy Moss, Chad Pennington and others. How do the actions of Coach Lengyel and the Huntington community impact the program’s success even years later?

7.) Coach Lengyel did not focus on ‘scoreboard winning’ but instead emphasized effort. Do you think this approach eventually translated to scoreboard winning anyways?