

# Live Large Study Guide

## Session 6: "Go the Distance by the Rules"

### Small-Group Discussion Questions

**Read: 2 Corinthians 11:23-28**

1. How does Paul's life serve as an example of shattering the boundaries of balance and entering a life beyond balance?
2. How do you think Jesus would do one of the following:
  - Wake up in the morning
  - Greet those he would first see in the morning
  - Drive
  - Work
  - Shop
  - Use the Internet
  - Watch television
  - Go to bed at night
3. What will you do in the coming week to be more like Jesus in one of these areas?
4. Ortberg writes about the stages a person faces when running a marathon:
  - Pleasure
  - Drudgery
  - Effortful labor
  - Temptation to quit—"hitting the wall"
  - Either endurance or quitting

If you look at your spiritual life as a race, describe what phase you are in and how it feels right.

**Read: James 1:2-4**

5. We all face times of struggle and pain. What counsel does James give us that will help us make it through these times? Tell about a time when you were able to experience joy even though you were going through a time of trial.

**Read: Genesis 22:1-14**

6. Imagine you were Abraham and had to walk through this life experience. What are some of the feelings you would face?

7. Years later, as Abraham looked back on this whole experience, how might it have impacted his life and faith?

8. How might this whole experience have impacted Isaac's life and faith?

**Group Prayer Direction**

Pray for your small-group members in the specific area of life where they expressed a desire to be more like Jesus. Pray for their attitudes and actions to reflect the heart of Jesus more and more with each passing day.

Take time to pray for your small-group members who have hit the wall in some area of their life. Pray for them to experience a new strength and power to press on and endure, even when it is painful.

**Living Large**

Of all the activities listed in question 2, which one do you find the most difficult to do in Jesus' name? Commit to pray for a dramatic change in this area of your life. What practical steps can you take (even if you don't feel like it) to more reflect the heart of Christ in this activity?