Discussion Guide: Coach Carter

Coach Carter, based on a true story, follows the life of Ken Carter, who returns to his high school in the underprivileged community of Richmond, California to coach high school basketball. The film includes themes of coaching your own child, discipline techniques of coaches, how to be a student-athlete, making good life choices, and succeeding against the odds.

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

1.) Do you agree with Coach Carter’s strict disciplinary techniques? Why or why not?

2.) Coach Carter must walk a fine line between father and coach when coaching his son Damien. Does he walk this line effectively? How so?

3.) Coach Carter holds his student-athletes to high academic standards. Why is this important for him to do?

4.) When Timo Cruz wants to be back on the team, why is it important that Coach Carter gives him a second chance?

5.) How does playing basketball help Kenyon Stone and his priorities in life?

6.) Even though the team does not win the championship on the scoreboard at the end, what other ways do they succeed as a team?

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