

# ASBURY AT THE MOVIES

## SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDE

Week 2 July 16, 2023  
“Chariots of Fire”



### OPENING PRAYER

Heavenly Father, we come to you today asking for your guidance, wisdom, and support as we begin this study. Help us to engage in meaningful discussion; allow us to grow closer as a group and nurture the bonds of community. Fill us with your grace, Lord Jesus. It's in his name we pray. Amen.

### SCRIPTURE PASSAGES

#### 1 Corinthians 9:24-26a

*<sup>24</sup>Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. <sup>25</sup>Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. <sup>26</sup>Therefore I do not run like someone running aimlessly;*

#### Isaiah 40:31

*But those who trust in the Lord will find new strength. They will soar high on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint.*

#### 1 Samuel 2:30

*But I will honor those who honor me.*

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## INTRODUCTION

*Chariots of Fire* is a true story of two British athletes, Eric Liddell and Harold Abrahams, who participate in the 1924 Olympics. Eric is a devoted Christian who runs for God’s glory. Harold is Jewish and he runs for acceptance in a culture that was prejudice toward people of his faith. The contrast in motives between Harold and Eric is very noticeable but you can sympathize with both men. So where does the movie point us toward scripture?

Our Christian journey is like a race and we needed to continually train for it by practicing our spiritual disciplines. When things don’t go as planned in our race of life, we need to trust in God and let him continue to mold and shape us. God has provided us with different gifts and abilities to help us in the race and God is pleased when we enjoy and use the gifts he has given us. Above all, we honor God with all we say and do and in the end he will honor us and give us strength.

## QUESTIONS

1. Have you seen the movie *Chariots of Fire*? If so, discuss your thoughts on it.
2. In the movie, Eric Liddell compares faith to running in a race. Do you agree or disagree? If you agree, how do you train for the race of life?
3. In the movie, Eric Liddell says to his sister Jennie “I believe God made me for a purpose, but he also made me fast, and when I run, I feel God’s pleasure. To give up running would hold him in contempt.” Discuss.
4. In the movie, Eric Liddell refuses to run in the Olympic 100-meter race because his Christian convictions prevent him from running on the Lord’s Day. How do you feel about his decision? Would we be willing to sacrifice our hopes and dreams if those hopes and dreams did not honor God?
5. In the movie, Harold Abrahams says “I have 10 seconds to prove my existence.” Do you tie your self-worth to your career or accomplishments in life? Where should your self-worth come from?

## FINAL APPLICATION

What is one thing you can do this week to train better for your race of faith? How can this group help?