**NEW MORNING STAR MB CHURCH**

**1026 Missouri St.**

**11/16/2019**

**Pine Bluff AR**

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MOVIE NOTES

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| SCENES | **WHAT INSPIRES YOU OR ENLIGHTENS YOU ABOUT THE SCENE? (ALSO FEEL FREE TO MAKE NOT OF QUESTIONS YOU HAVE!)** |
| 1. |  |
| **2.** |  |
| **3.** |  |
| **4.** |  |
| **5.** |  |
| **6.** |  |
| **7.** |  |
| **8.** |  |
| **9.** |  |
| **10.** |  |
| **11.** |  |
| **12.** |  |
| **13.** |  |



**Introduction**

* After six consecutive losing seasons, high school football coach Grant Taylor believes things can't get any worse. He's wrong.
* After his best player transfers and his Eagles lose to the worst team in the conference, Grant discovers a group of fathers—and one of his coaches—is plotting to have him sacked.
* Barely making ends meet as it is and unable to start a family with his wife, who longs to be a mother, Grant Taylor has no help in sight, until ...
* With fear and failure seemingly defeating him at life's every turn, the downtrodden coach and husband turns to God in broken desperation.
* Trusting that God can somehow do the impossible, Coach Taylor and his Shiloh Christian Eagles soon discover how faith plays out on the field ... and off.
* This movie is proof that God is concern about the total Man

**Movie Objectives**

* **Concept 1**: We are here for God's glory, not our own. (Revelation 4:11: You are worthy, O Lord to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and by Your will they exist and were created.)
* **Concept 2**: Loving God and others is the most important thing we can do. (Matthew 22:37-39: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.)
* **Concept 3**: Give God your best in every area. (Colossians 3:23: Whatsoever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men.)
* **Concept 4**: God deserves our worship and praise whether we succeed or fail. (Job 1:21: The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord.)

**Preliminary Questions**

1. The movie is all about “facing the giants in our lives.” What are some of the giants in your life? What does the bible say about them?

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| a. Adults: |  | b. Children/Students | |
| i. | Career adversity? | i. | Academics? |
| ii. | Infertility Issues? | ii. | College and career? |
| iii. | Lack of co-worker support? | iii. | Sports? |
| iv. | Financial burdens? | iv. | Friends? |
| v. | Discouragement? | v. | Acceptance? |
| vi. | Loneliness? | vi. | Peer pressure? |

1. Pick one of those themes. What does the Bible say about that articular theme? (Parents, this is great opportunity to model for your children how to actually look up the bible verse in your bible versus clicking on the link thus teaching them how to use their bibles)
   1. Adversity [(2 Corinthians 4:7-9;](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+Corinthians+4%3A7-9&version=ESV) [2 Corinthians 12:7-10](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+Corinthians+12%3A7-10&version=ESV))
   2. Purpose in life [(Colossians 3:23-24](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Colossians+3%3A23-24&version=ESV))
   3. Discouragement [(Joshua 1:9;](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Joshua+1%3A9&version=ESV) [Romans 8:31-39](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Romans+8%3A31-39&version=ESV))
   4. Leadership [(Philippians 2:1-5;](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Philippians+2%3A1-5&version=ESV) [John 13: 12-15](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+13%3A12-15&version=ESV) and [34-35;](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+13%3A34-35&version=ESV) )
   5. Perseverance [(Romans 5:3-5;](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Romans+5%3A3-5&version=ESV) [Hebrews 12:1-3;](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Hebrews+12%3A1-3&version=ESV) [James 1:2-4](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=James+1%3A2-4&version=ESV))
   6. Prayer [(Philippians 4:4-7;](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Philippians+4%3A4-7&version=ESV) [1 Timothy 2:1-4](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=I+Timothy+2%3A1-4&version=ESV))
   7. Honoring our parents and those in authority [(Ephesians 6:1-4;](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Ephesians+6%3A1-4&version=ESV) [Romans 13:1-7](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Romans+13%3A1-7&version=ESV))
   8. Doubt ([Proverbs 3:5-6;](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Proverbs+3%3A5-6&version=ESV) [Isaiah 41:10](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Isaiah+41%3A10&version=ESV))



Group Discussion Questions

1. Brock “death-crawled” much further than he realized he could. Read Colossians 3:23-24. What does it mean to do things as if you’re “working for the Lord”? Give a practical example of this from your own life.

2. Read James 2:17-18 and Hebrews 11:6. Mr. Bridges encouraged Coach Taylor to “prepare for rain.” Is there something you’ve prayed for, but you haven’t seen an answer yet? Is there some action step you can take that might help you wait or prepare for God’s answer?

3. It’s been said that if you have a vision you can fulfill with your own strength, it might not be a “God vision.” Consider Matthew 19:26 and Philippians 4:13. Do you feel God calling you to do something that you can’t accomplish without His intervention? If you are willing, share that vision with your group.

4. David, the kicker, struggled to earn his place on the team. Have you ever felt defeated? Read Galatians 6:9. What battle are you facing right now?

5. Brooke made a commitment to love God regardless of her life circumstances. Read Romans 8:38-39. What does it mean to “love” God? Read 1 John 4:9-10 and verse 19. What are some practical things we can we do to express our love for God?

6. Proverbs 24:16a says, “A righteous man falls seven times and rises again.” Read 1 Samuel 30:6. What can you do to “find strength in the Lord”?

7. Coach Taylor encouraged his team not to play for themselves, but to play to please God. 1 Corinthians 10:31 says, “Whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.” Jesus gave an example of servants using their talents (ancient Greek money) in Matthew 25:14-30. What “talents” do you possess that you could put to use for God’s kingdom? How?

8. Read Matthew 6:19-21. wise man said, “If you aim at nothing, you’re likely to hit the target.” How can you set meaningful goals that make the most of this life you have here on earth?

9. Mr. Bridges prayed that revival would come to the school. Why do you think he prayed that? Read 2 Chronicles 7:14. Give examples of what revival would look like in real life.

10. Coach Bobby Lee Duke intimidated his players to motivate them, but Coach Taylor encouraged his. Consider if you personally are more likely to criticize or to encourage others.

Read Hebrews 3:13. How can you encourage one another in this group right now? Based on what your group has already



**Lessons from The Death Crawl Scene**

**Lesson 1 – “Keep Moving, Keep Driving, Don’t Quit”**

In the scene, Coach Grant blindfolded Brock because he didn’t want him to give up once he hit the 50-yard line because he knew that he could exceed that goal. Brock, on the other hand, didn’t even believe that he could get to the 50-yard line in the first place.

**Lesson 2 – *Give Your VERY Best/*Give Everything You’ve Got**

there is a difference between giving something your best and giving something your *very* best. If Brock just gave it his best, he might have made it to the 75-yard line. Towards the end, when he was in extreme pain and was hurting, the coach Grant was literally screaming in his face for him to fight on and keep going. It didn’t matter how much Brock was hurting or how tired he was. Much to Brock’s amazement – and his teammates – he was able to do the entire field, but only by giving it his absolute very best.

**Lesson 3 – *You Inspire Others When You Perform at Your Best***

At the beginning of this scene, Brock’s teammates were laughing at him and his attempt to make it to the 50-yard line with Jeremy on his back. In the end, they were speechless and the stood up in respect. If, as the top performer, you are exceeding your goals and are showing others that it *can* be done, people will follow suit and will start to believe that they can do it too. It will garner respect and will turn a joke and defeated environment to a serious and inspired one.

**Lesson 5 – *No Matter What, Refuse to Walk Around Defeated***

When top people walk around with long faces and an obvious feeling of defeat, it will permeate throughout the church or home and everyone will start to believe that they too are losers who can’t win. At the beginning of the clip, Brock openly said that he didn’t believe that they could win. You can see that his teammates were actually believing it. After the death crawl, it was an entirely different environment. Walking around defeated before it’s even over only guarantees that you will lose. In the movie, even though they lost their best performer and had 6 straight years of losing, they were able to have a successful season.

**How are YOU facing YOUR giant?**



**Facing the Giants …With God, all things are possible**

**“Focus on giants—you stumble. Focus on God—your giants tumble.”**

***I.*** ***FACING YOUR GIANTS***

**At** **the** **beginning** **of** ***Facing*** ***the*** ***Giants,*** **Coach** **Grant** **Taylor** **is** **faced** **with** **a** **series** **of** **defeats** **and** **humiliations** **that** **assault** **his** **sense** **of** **self** **and** **leave** **him** **wondering** **what** **God** **is** **doing.** **At** **one** **point,** **he** **refers** **to** **his** **seemingly** **insurmountable** **problems** **as** **“giants** **of** **fear** **and** **failure.”**

**1.** **What** **are** **the** **“giants”** **in** **your** **world?**

**2.** **How** **does** **their** **presence** **affect** **your** **sense** **of** **self?**

**3.** **How** **do** **they** **affect** **your** **vision** **of** **who** **God** **is** **and** **how** **He** **is** **working** **in** **your** **life?**

**Coach** **Taylor’s** **life** **begins** **to** **turn** **around** **when** **he** **stops** **looking** **at** **his** **problems** **and** **starts** **looking** **at** **God** **instead.** **Max** **Lucado,** **in** **his** **book,** **Facing** **Your** **Giants,** **puts** **it** **this** **way:**

***“Focus*** ***on*** ***giants—you*** ***stumble.*** ***Focus*** ***on*** ***God—your*** ***giants*** ***tumble.”***

**4.** **W**h**en** **you** **focus** **on** **your** **“giants,”** **what** **kind** **of** **stumbles** **do** **you** **tend** **to** **take?**

**5.** **How** **does** **focusing** **on** **God** **cause** **your** **giants** **to** **shrink—and** **tumble?**

**Trying** **to** **come** **to** **terms** **with** **his** **own** **giants,** **David** **Childers** **asks** **his** **father,** **“Why** **would** **[God]** **make** **me** **so** **small** **and** **weak?”** **“To** **show** **how** **mighty** **He** **is,”** **his** **father** **answers.**

**6.** **How** **is** **God’s** **might** **shown** **through** **our** **weakness?**

**7.** **So** **you’re** **smaller** **and** **weaker** **than** **the** **giants** **that** **stalk** **your** **life.** **Where** **does** **your** **comfort** **and** **confidence** **lie?**



**Facing the Giants …With God, all things are possible**

**“Focus on giants—you stumble. Focus on God—your giants tumble.”**

**II.** **Letting Go**

**When** **Coach** **Taylor** **offers** **up** **a** **new** **team** **philosophy** **for** **his** **players,** **he** **declares** **that** **football**

**is** **too** **small** **a** **thing** **to** **live** **for.** **When** **the** **players** **loosen** **their** **grip** **and** **hand** **their** **season** **over** **to** **God,** **suddenly** **they** **find** **that** **football** **is** **more** **important** **than** **ever,** **because** **it** **becomes** **a** **way** **to** **glorify** **God.**

**1.** **Are** **you** **living** **for** **anything** **smaller** **than** **God?**

**2.** **In** **what** **ways** **do** **the** **most** **important** **things** **in** **life** **become** **more** **important** **when** **you** **hand** **them** **over** **to** **God?**

**3.** **In** **what** **ways** **do** **those** **things** **become** **less** **important?**

**After** **the** **Shiloh** **football** **players** **commit** **their** **lives** **to** **God,** **they** **seem** **to** **be** **living** **in** **their** **“sweet** **spot.”** **They’re** **looser** **and** **more** **relaxed** **in** **practice** **and** **in** **games;** **their** **schoolwork** **improves.** **They** **enjoy** **life** **more,** **and** **they** **change** **from** **losers** **into** **winners.** **As** **Mr.** **Childers** **says,** **“Your** **actions** **always** **follow** **your** **beliefs.”**

**4.** **How** **do** **changes** **in** **your** **internal** **world** **make** **their** **way** **out** **to** **your** **external** **world?**

**5.** **The** **more** **you** **submit** **to** **God,** **the** **more** **freedom** **you** **enjoy.** **How** **do** **you** **account** **for** **that** **paradox?**

**Throughout** **Facing** **the** **Giants,** **victory** **begins** **with** **surrender.** **Consider** **Brooke** **Taylor’s** **prayer— “I** **will** **still** **love** **You”—even** **when** **it** **appears** **that** **she** **won’t** **get** **the** **baby** **she** **longs** **for.** **Only** **then** **is** **her** **longing** **fulfilled.**

**6.** **Why** **is** **it** **so** **hard** **to** **praise** **God** **when** **you** **lose?** **Why** **is** **it** **so** **necessary?**

**7.** **W**h**at** **are** **areas** **of** **your** **life** **that** **you** **need** **to** **surrender** **to** **God** **in** **order** **to** **experience** **His** **victory?**



***Facing the Giants***

***…With God, all things are possible***

***“Focus on giants—you stumble. Focus on God—your giants tumble.”***

**III. Leaving it all on the field**

**In** **the** **“Death** **Crawl”** **scene,** **Brock** **Kelley** **accomplishes** **something** **neither** **he** **nor** **his** **teammates** **thought** **possible—all** **because** **he** **commits** **to** **give** **100%.** **That** **experience** **turns** **the** **season** **around** **for** **the** **Shiloh** **Eagles.**

**1.** **Why** **do** **you** **think** **Coach** **Taylor** **makes** **Brock** **wear** **a** **blindfold** **for** **the** **Death** **Crawl?**

**2.** **W** **here** **are** **you** **giving** **less** **than** **100%** **in** **your** **life?**

**3.** **W**h**at** **self-imposed** **limits** **keep** **you** **from** **giving** **your** **all** **to** **the** **things** **that** **matter** **most?**

**Exhausted,** **Brock** **is** **ready** **to** **quit** **in** **the** **4th** **quarter** **of** **the** **championship** **game.** **Coach** **Taylor** **reminds** **him,** **“It’s** **easy** **to** **lead** **when** **you’re** **strong.** **But** **now** **is** **when** **you** **lead.”**

**4.** **What** **circumstances** **make** **you** **feel** **like** **quitting?**

**5.** **H** **ow** **can** **you** **find** **the** **energy** **and** **the** **will** **to** **lead** **in** **such** **circumstances?**

**Exhaustion** **nearly** **causes** **Brock** **to** **let** **the** **team** **down.** **In** **David’s** **case,** **it** **is** **fear.** **But** **Coach** **Taylor** **equips** **David** **for** **victory** **with** **a** **reminder** **of** **the** **team’s** **guiding** **truth:** **“You’ve** **got** **to** **give** **God** **your** **best** **and** **leave** **the** **results** **to** **Him.”**

**6.** **D** **escribe** **how** **that** **philosophy** **is** **a** **source** **of** **freedom.**

7. **W**h**at** **if** **you** **give** **your** **best** **and** **God** **doesn’t** **give** **you** **the** **results** **you** **wanted** **or** **expected?**



**Facing the Giants**

***…With* *God,* *all* *things* *are* *possible***

**“Focus on giants—you stumble. Focus on God—your giants tumble.”**

**IV. Preparing for Rain**

**Mr.** **Bridges,** **Shiloh’s** **hall-walking** **prayer** **warrior,** **gives** **Coach** **Taylor** **a** **new** **way** **of** **understanding** **faith** **when** **he** **tells** **the** **story** **of** **a** **farmer** **who** **not** **only** **prayed** **for** **rain,** **but** **prepared** **his** **fields** **to** **receive** **the** **rain.**

**1.** **H** **ow** **does** **“preparing** **for** **rain”** **show** **more** **faith** **than** **praying** **for** **rain** **and** **leaving** **it** **at** **that?**

**2.** **D**o **you** **ever** **pray** **for** **something,** **then** **live** **as** **if** **you** **don’t** **expect** **God** **to** **answer?** **If** **so,** **why?**

**3.** **Consider** **the** **things** **that** **you’re** **praying** **for** **now—the** **big** **things.** **How** **might** **you** **“prepare** **your** **fields”** **in** **expectation** **of** **God’s** **blessing?**

**As** **Coach** **Taylor’s** **experience** **shows,** **“preparing** **for** **rain”** **means** **taking** **some** **risks,** **living** **beyond** **your** **comfort** **zone.** **It** **is** **a** **huge** **risk** **to** **put** **David** **Childers** **in** **for** **a** **51-yard** **field** **goal.** **When** **asked** **what** **he** **was** **doing,** **Coach** **Taylor** **answers,** **“I’m** **preparing** **for** **rain.”**

**4.** **What** **does** **he** **mean** **by** **that?**

**The** **Giants’** **coach** **Bobby** **Lee** **Duke** **takes** **risks** **himself—notably,** **going** **for** **a** **touchdown** **rather** **than** **a** **field** **goal** **at** **the** **end** **of** **the** **championship** **game.**

**5.** **How** **are** **those** **risks** **different** **from** **Coach** **Taylor’s** **“rain** **preparation”** **risks?**

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***Facing the Giants …With God, all things are possible***

***“Focus on giants—you stumble. Focus on God—your giants tumble.”***

**V. Watching God Work**

**Mr.** **Childers** **tells** **his** **son** **David** **of** **the** **prayer** **he** **has** **prayed** **ever** **since** **David** **was** **a** **baby:** **“that** **He** **would** **show** **how** **strong** **He** **is** **in** **your** **life,** **and** **that** **through** **you,** **people** **would** **see** **how** **good** **He** **is.”**

**1.** **How** **is** **Mr.** **Childers’** **prayer** **answered** **in** **this** **story?**

**2.** **W**h**at** **does** **Mr.** **Childers** **do** **to** **“prepare** **for** **rain”—to** **put** **his** **son** **in** **a** **position** **to** **see** **his** **prayer** **answered?**

**3.** **How** **is** **living** **to** **see** **God’s** **glory** **better** **than** **living** **to** **see** **your** **own** **glory?**

**By** **all** **earthly** **standards,** **the** **Shiloh** **Eagles** **shouldn’t** **even** **be** **on** **the** **same** **field** **with** **the** **Richland** **Giants.** **But** **for** **Coach** **Taylor** **and** **his** **players,** **the** **very** **unlikelihood** **of** **their** **story** **gave** **them** **hope:** **it** **was** **evidence** **that** **God** **was** **at** **work.**

**4.** **God** **delights** **in** **the** **unlikely** **stories** **and** **paradoxes.** **How** **does** **that** **realization** **change** **your** **view** **of** **long-shot** **stories?**

**5.** **How** **do** **you** **define** **“hope”?**

**In** **his** **post-game** **wrap-up,** **Coach** **Taylor** **tells** **his** **players,** **“I** **hope** **today** **is** **a** **milestone** **for** **what** **[God]** **can** **do** **for** **the** **rest** **of** **your** **life,** **if** **you** **trust** **Him.”**

**6.** **H** **ow** **has** **God** **already** **shown** **His** **strength** **and** **goodness** **in** **your** **life?** **Do** **you** **have** **“milestones”** **in** **your** **life** **where** **you** **clearly** **saw** **God** **at** **work?**

**7.** **What** **is** **impossible** **with** **God?**

**More**



# Leadership Lessons

The movie titled facing the giants is all about a high school coach who was very discouraged about the fact that his team was not winning any match. There many challenges confronting him both at the home front and at the school where he works. He discovered that there was a conspiracy to replace him. he had no choice than to return to God. How he did it and what happen thereafter is what I have tried to capture in the ten lessons below.

**Lessons # 1** **Coach Grant is a Leader-Motivator**

From the beginning of the movie Facing the Giants, one of the things that really got Coach Grant worried and discouraged was that, Daren, one of his very best players quietly transfer to another school. From all indication, Daren’s transfer implied exit from a team that will never win. If Shiloh Christian Academy (SCA) was a winning team, winning big could land Daren a scholarship but he didn’t see that happening at SCA. Disappointed and discouraged by Daren’s action. Coach grant immediately switched role. Suddenly he became the mentor-motivator reminding the team that Daren is not irreplaceable (not indispensable).

**Lesson # 2** **Coach Grant Was A Strong Man**

Coach Grant didn’t have children and his team was not wining. While his wife badly wanted to be pregnant, the doctor’s report revealed that he can’t impregnate his wife. There was also a conspiracy to replace him as Coach. He was not wining at home and he was not winning on the football field. Knowing his condition, Coach Grant remained strong.

**Lesson # 3** **Coach Grant Leadership Was Firm**

It is not easy to be a leader especially when the team is always losing. Coach Grant realized they have been losing recently not winning any match. The climax came in a game where they lost 21 to 7. Then, he began to ask questions getting very firm on the players. How could they have lost 21 to 7 Coach Grant asked. He shouted at the players. He was on top of his voice letting them know that the players they lost to were not better in any way than them. He read the analysis of the game to his team and revealed that they just gave the game away. He discovered that the problem was that his team were not united. He spoke much on how only unity can take them to the top.

**Lesson # 4** **Coach Grant Addressed Issues Not Personalities**

The inability of Coach Grant’s car battery to hold charge was another challenge that people sometimes make jest of him. He never took that personally because he knew of a truth that he needed a better car. Even though his wife reminded him that they couldn’t afford a small new car. Grant never attack anyone for making jest of him about his car. He just went on believing that somehow, it will happen. When he discovered that there was a conspiracy to replace him as coach of Shiloh Academy Football Team, he became worried but did not attack anyone. There was a conspiracy to replace coach grant, he knew about it and he also knew those involved but he didn’t fight anyone of the plotters. Other leaders would have transfer aggression to the closest people to them. But Coach Grant never did. The lesson here is very important, always address issues not persons.

**Lesson # 5** **Accepting Responsibility Instead of Playing the Blame Game**

There are many leaders I know and have seen in the past and present whose leadership styles have problems but they have refused to accept that they have problems. I think one very good leadership style and virtue exhibited by Coach Grant was his ability tell himself the truth. The truth was the brutal facts he confronted above. There are many of them in the movie, such as;

1. He probably never imagined that he could be the reason why his why couldn’t take in until he agreed to see the doctor. The doctor said Grant was problem. It was a very revealing and devastating moment for Grant. Yet, he accepted it.
2. His team was not winning their matches yet he accepted it instead of denying it or blaming someone else.
3. There was a conspiracy to replace him as coach, he knew about it, he knew the people involve and who would eventually replace him it the plot worked. Yet, he was not moved even though concerned.
4. The boys were not doing very well academically. The teachers talked about it and the boys also knew their performances weren’t good enough. Coach Grant knew and was also calmed though concerned.
5. He was living on a very small salary that could pay their bills. He knew and was calm though concerned.
6. The bills were piling up including his wife medical bills. He knew about all these. He was concerned but not moved. Etc.

There was a plethora of challenges around Coach Grant and instead of living in denial he acknowledged them all but remained strong hoping against all odds that these too shall pass.

**LESSON # 6 Don’t Give Up Life and Don’t Give Up on Anyone**

Coach Grant was a resilient coach. With he has been through. He stayed put. He was not shaken at all. He maintained a positive mindset. His greatest hope was in God. His greatest faith was in God not in any man or team member. He believed that will come through for him. He encouraged everyone in the team to be focus on God. He told the boys to die to self and live for God even on the field. Well, the end of it all was that, coach Grant won the state championship all to the glory of God. The lesson here is clear, in everything, let God be praised. Only when we do that will we see success in all we put our hands to do.