

The Grit Factor

Focus

Winston Churchill once said that if you are going through hell, then keep going. In other words, if we are going to succeed, we need to persevere. But just as important as having grit, we also need the God factor, which means we are set apart and submitted to God. Worship is the way we bridge the gap between godly and gritty.

Fun

What is your favorite gritty movie and why? If you had to describe yourself as a movie genre what would you be? Comedy, suspense, action, drama, or adventure? Why?

Review

Key Scripture: Romans 1:19-32, 2:1-13; 2 Corinthians 6:1-10

• The Grit Factor

In life, it is important that we have a certain amount of grit and that we choose to persevere, no matter our circumstances. Our grit level is revealed when we are under pressure. However, as we choose to persevere, we become mature and increase in our grit factor, but we need more in life than just grit, we need to be more like Christ.

• The God Factor

According to Romans chapter 1, each of us will be judged according to the things we do. It is not enough for us to simply "know" God. We must be completely surrendered to Him, and this happens when we worship. Our worship matters. When we worship we are bowing our knee before God and surrendering our lives to His will. If we are not completely sold out to God and living a holy and pure life, we will be ashamed and regretful when Christ appears. God wants us to bridge the gap between godly and gritty through worship.

Group Dynamics Idea Understanding each person's unique gifts and talents is a great way to bond as a group. Look for ways to encourage one another in your unique gifts and how they can bring glory to God.

Discuss

1. Have you ever thought about why God created you and what it means to be made in His image? Describe in one or two sentences why you think God made you and what it means to be made in His image.

- 2. Lisa Bevere described grit as persevering when things get hard. How would *you* describe grit, and why might it be important for us to have the "grit" factor?
- 3. Read Romans 1:19–23. What stands out to you as you hear these verses? What surprises you the most about them?
- 4. According to 2 Corinthians 6:1–10, we are to conduct ourselves throughout the time of our stay on earth in full submission to God. What does this mean to you?
- 5. Lisa stated that worship is the only way to bridge the gap between the grit factor and the God factor. Do you agree or disagree with this statement and why?
- 6. What is worship, and how does it change or affect us?
- 7. Stop and take time to lead your group in prayer. Ask everyone to take a moment of silence and examine their own lives. Have everyone prayerfully consider any area of their lives that is not in "worship" to God.
- 8. If you were aware on a daily basis that your life must be in worship to God, would your life look any different? If so, how? (As the leader, be prepared to answer this question yourself. If you lead by being vulnerable with your group, your group members will feel safer and more willing to be open.)

Take Home As we conclude, remember the following:

- Our grit factor matters.
- Our God factor causes us to worship.
- Worship bridges the gap between grit and godly.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank You that You are a just God and that through Christ Jesus we can be saved. We believe that You have saved us by grace and that we are called to submit our lives to Christ through worship. Help us to lay aside any distractions or fears that would hinder us from fully submitting to Christ. Empower us to boldly serve You in all of our actions and words. We love You and thank You for the great purpose You have for our lives. In Jesus' name, Amen.

New Leader Tip Take time throughout this coming week to touch base with each member of your group. By sending a card in the mail, making a phone call, or even sending a thoughtful email of encouragement, you will be making a significant relational investment into the members of your group. Ask them how their week is going and if they have any prayer needs.