



***Running Mate* | Group Discussion Questions** **Week 4 | Chapters 10-12**

Digest the story:

1. What did you learn from the “History Lesson of chapter 10? Why did political parties emerge even if the Founding Fathers wanted to avoid them?
2. How would you describe Senator Dorsey’s relationship with her husband? How important is a strong family for our nation’s leaders?
3. Describe the dynamics behind the first Presidential debate, especially how Franklin’s invitation overshadowed the event.

Consider current Events:

1. What do you feel are the pros and cons of political parties in America today?
2. Brainstorm some of the values that have changed significantly in America over the past decade or two. How can we hope to hold elected officials accountable to values that keep changing?
3. What are your impressions of the three presidential debates in this year’s election? How are they like and unlike prior debates?

Think about leadership:

1. Franklin chose to reach out to an “expert” to sell his invitation to Dorsey. How important is it for leaders to surround themselves with people who are “smarter” than they are, and how do they do it without losing their role as leader and decision-maker?
2. Would it be possible for a presidential candidate to purely run a positive campaign about why they should be president, rather than why their opponent is bad? Would they have a chance at winning?

Jesus is My Running Mate

1. Jesus surrounded himself with people who had no leadership pedigree in his culture. These people went on to change the world through the movement he started. What does this tell us about the reliability of human standards for leadership and our own tendency to doubt the impact that we (or others) can have on the world?



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