



FIRST A PLAYER, THEN A COACH, ALWAYS A DISCIPLE with Omar Mance

▶ FOCUS VERSE

In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps.
Proverbs 16:9

▶ DISCUSSION

1. Are you familiar with the concept of servant leadership?

- a. Discuss the concept and try to think of a person in your life who has exemplified it.
- b. What kind of impact did that person make in your life?

2. Of all the coaches who have worked at the college or professional level, who's the one you admire most?

- a. What about that person do you find most admirable—particularly in the context of what they do off the field of play?

3. If you played sports as a young man, who was the coach who made the biggest impression on you?

- a. What lessons did they teach you that are still helping you as an adult?



4. **Omar says that every time there's been a challenge or trial in his life, God's used it for something good. One example he mentions is that if he'd had the NBA career he originally aspired to, he never would've met his wife. (See Romans 8:28.)**
- Can you think of a time in your life when you missed out on something or were unable to achieve a goal, but the change in life paths set you on a course for something good—maybe something even better than what you'd been aspiring to?
 - How has your worldview changed since that inflection point in your life?
5. **Talk about John Maxwell's concept of being "a pendulum between resilience and humility."**
- Have you ever been at a point in your life where your success made it harder to be humble?
 - Did you learn a sense of humility on your own, or did outside circumstances force it upon you by "taking you down a peg," so to speak?
6. **Omar says that if you try to hide too many of your struggles under the bed, they eventually turn into a "boogeyman" you can't control.**
- Has that rung true in your life?
 - Have you ever experienced a challenge in your life that became worse because you were unwilling to share those difficulties with people who could've supported you?
7. **Reflect on Omar's quote about how "you shouldn't die without making a disciple." (See Matthew 28:16-20.)**
- Is there anyone in your life to whom you could be that kind of mentor—or maybe already are?
 - What role does this person play in your life, and what role would they say you play in theirs?

