



# Losers vs. Winners

## Session 4

*by Emily Norman, Sheree Patterson, and Eric Majeski*

**“Have nothing to do with godless myths and old wives’ tales; rather, train yourself to be godly. For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come.” 1 Timothy 4:7-8**

**Session 4: Closing the Gap...Winning the Race...Getting the Prize:  
Our Permanent Connection to God**

### I. Intro

How do we say it (eternal life through Jesus Christ) in a way that has never been said before? How can we reflect God’s love?

- Give each student an index card with the questions: “Why do I believe in God?” and “How can I be saved?” with space between to write answers.
- Challenge each student to write down answers to these questions in ways they never have before.

### II. Personal Story

Share with the group a story or event where you understood what the “Prize” was and how that changed your life and faith.

### III. Draw/write what the prize is for you.

Read 2 Timothy 4:7-8 to them while they are drawing/writing.

### IV. Read Revelation 1:3, 1:11-18, 2:17, 3:6, 3:19 - John sees heaven.

1. Say “There will be NO pain, no popularity contests, no sports star. We all win. There will be no flaws in character or body, etc.”
2. Discussion questions in small groups:
  - According to Revelation 1:3, why bother reading the Bible? What benefits does this verse describe? (Possible answer more explanation: You are blessed if you read it, hear it, and take it to heart; the book of Revelation reveals what will happen in the future; there is nothing to fear if you are on the winning side. When you think about the future, walk with confidence because Christ the victor walks with you. He’s got your back! You know God is going to take care of you because He says that He will.)
  - Who and what does John see in Revelation 1:11-18? Describe. What does He [Jesus] say? Why is that important to know? (Possible answer and explanation: John is writing what he sees starting in Revelation 1:11ff. In verse 12, he sees the voice that is speaking to him and then hears what Jesus has to say, which is in our own words: “Hold on...Don’t give up...Look to Jesus.” It reassures us that we have access to God’s strength. In verse 17, He tells us not to be afraid. He is always, and has always, and will always be. In other words, hold on for a wild ride, don’t give up and look to Jesus for everything. )
  - According to Revelation 2:17, 3:6, & 3:19, which phrase is repeated over in these verses? Who do we listen to? What is the the prize in Revelation 3:20? Which side of the door do you keep Jesus on and why? (Possible answer and explanation: The phrase repeated is “He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says...” We listen to the Spirit. Dinner with Jesus. The prize is hanging out with Jesus in eternity forever. He has you in His life forever, do you recognize that? For the last question, these answers are a personal expression of an individual’s relationship with God.)

3. Illustration (optional) – You can use “The Emperor’s Seeds” from More Hot Illustrations for Youth Talks by Wayne Rice, published by Youth Specialties, or create your own illustration.

#### **V. Summary**

The prize is when you are a loser, you are really a winner. When you lose your life, you will win eternal life. (See John 12:24-25)

#### **VI. Closing prayer**