

## Discussion Questions for *Coach Carter*

**Some of the major characters to watch for:** Coach Ken Carter, Timo Cruz, Kenyon Stone, Kyra, Junior Battle, Jaron “Worm” Willis, Jason Lyle, Damien Carter, Principal Garrison

1. Notice the transformation of the boys from the beginning of the story to the end. Carter’s vision becomes their vision; Carter’s values become their values. How did this happen? Why do they follow him?
2. Identify the occasions where Coach Carter courageously holds his ground in the face of resistance and/or opposition. He makes it look relatively easy, but how hard do you think this is?
3. We are suggesting that this is an example of “courageous leadership,” but it might look to some like “prideful leadership”—rigid, my-way-or-the-highway directives that will not change for anyone. What’s the difference?
4. Comment on the character of Principal Garrison, in particular her leadership of the school and her disposition toward Coach Carter.
5. What leadership lessons do you want to remember from this story?