



PART 1: Stepping Up to the Plate

INTRODUCTION

Have you ever felt behind financially, relationally, or emotionally? Have you ever felt so behind that you didn't know how to start catching up? The more time went by, the more you lost hope. These are *bottom-of-the-ninth* moments. But when you feel down, don't lose hope. You're never out. You can still turn the game around.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What is your favorite baseball movie? Why do you enjoy it?
2. Talk about a time when you felt behind in life. What did you do to catch up?
3. *"Your heavenly Father specializes in turning bad situations around."* What are some reasons it can be difficult for people to believe that about God?
4. Read Matthew 19:23-26. In what area of your life is it tempting to believe that with God all things are *not* possible? Why is it difficult for you to trust God in that area?
5. How would your finances, relationships, or emotions be different if you became an *anything-is-possible* person? What influence do you think that would have on the people around you?
6. What is one area of your life in which you're currently facing a *bottom-of-the-ninth* moment? How can this group pray for you this week?

MOVING FORWARD

Are people in your life telling you the game is over? It's time to start listening to a new voice. Your situation may look bleak, but don't let it define you. Let God define you. Remember: the Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, lives in you.

CHANGING YOUR MIND

And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.

Romans 8:11