



***Running Mate* | Group Discussion Questions Week 1 | Chapters 1-3**

Digest the story:

1. What do we learn about Governor Maurice Franklin as he waits to give his convention speech?
2. Discuss the two “favorite moments” that Franklin mentions in his speech (page 23), and what they reveal about his character.
3. Does Franklin remind you of any politician or public figure?
4. Describe Kathleen Dorsey as a person and candidate. Does she remind you of anyone? Do you “like” her as a character?

Consider current Events:

1. Dorsey had rejected the use of gender as a political strategy (pages 12-13). What do you think about that approach, and how might she address the current debates about “gender identity” or the “war on women.”
2. Why do you think Franklin decided on such a controversial plan for his running mate? What would be the parallel scenario in this election cycle and how would it be received?

Think about leadership:

1. Reread the *Running Mate* Prologue aloud. What forces do you presently see in politics that could have prompted Thomas Jefferson to reverse his strong stance about parties? How are today’s political leaders vulnerable to these same forces, for better or for worse?
2. Page 4 refers to something that Franklin has in common with both Napoleon Bonaparte and Adolf Hitler. Does this quality enable certain people to win followers? How significant is it?

Jesus is My Running Mate

1. Read Matthew 19:15-22-40. How does Jesus creatively avoid the trap of selecting one of two entrenched positions that would have mired him in conflict? Compare and contrast Governor Franklin’s invitation to Senator Dorsey with Jesus’ responses to the political leaders of His day.
2. How can people who follow Jesus creatively address divisive political issues without getting caught in the “trap” of gridlock?



***Running Mate* | Group Discussion Questions Week 1 | Chapters 1-3**

Digest the story:

1. What do we learn about Governor Maurice Franklin as he waits to give his convention speech?
2. Discuss the two “favorite moments” that Franklin mentions in his speech (page 23), and what they reveal about his character.
3. Does Franklin remind you of any politician or public figure?
4. Describe Kathleen Dorsey as a person and candidate. Does she remind you of anyone? Do you “like” her as a character?

Consider current Events:

1. Dorsey had rejected the use of gender as a political strategy (pages 12-13). What do you think about that approach, and how might she address the current debates about “gender identity” or the “war on women.”
2. Why do you think Franklin decided on such a controversial plan for his running mate? What would be the parallel scenario in this election cycle and how would it be received?

Think about leadership:

1. Reread the *Running Mate* Prologue aloud. What forces do you presently see in politics that could have prompted Thomas Jefferson to reverse his strong stance about parties? How are today’s political leaders vulnerable to these same forces, for better or for worse?
2. Page 4 refers to something that Franklin has in common with both Napoleon Bonaparte and Adolf Hitler. Does this quality enable certain people to win followers? How significant is it?

Jesus is My Running Mate

1. Read Matthew 19:15-22-40. How does Jesus creatively avoid the trap of selecting one of two entrenched positions that would have mired him in conflict? Compare and contrast Governor Franklin’s invitation to Senator Dorsey with Jesus’ responses to the political leaders of His day.
2. How can people who follow Jesus creatively address divisive political issues without getting caught in the “trap” of gridlock?