

THE CONQUEROR

EXPLORATION GUIDE

The W with Luke Bobo & Timothy Blackwood

1

The film starts with a series of reports about violence in Strawberry Mansion, the neighborhood where Jerome grew up. Jerome then tells the story of his friend, Calvin, who was shot and killed. He explained how this event changed his life and encouraged him to do better and start boxing.

How did the opening sequence set the stage for Jerome's story of perseverance and how did it inform your perception of him? Consider the traumatic moments in your life. How have they shaped you and informed your decisions?

2

Jerome waited four years to start earning money as a professional boxer, and even now, he must supplement his income with other work. But Jerome still takes pride in his second job as the Head of Maintenance for a school. Whether he's mopping floors or training in the gym, Jerome's work ethic is evident throughout this film.

Think about the role work plays in your life. Is work merely a financial means to an end or does it play a bigger role? How has this film challenged your view of work and its importance in your life?

3

In *The Conqueror*, Jerome calls out the "raw talent" in Philadelphia. These children are the next generation, and Jerome is playing a large role in guiding them. He sees the potential that each child has, if they stay away from a "fast money" lifestyle filled with drugs, guns and violence.

Think about the opportunities you've had in your life. How has your environment – family, neighborhood or friends – informed your life decisions?

4

Jerome proudly wears a basketball jersey representing Strawberry Mansion. In doing this, he becomes a visible example to the youth in his community. Jerome's nephew says, "He wants us to love our life." In the final scene, Jerome runs through the streets of his neighborhood leading a group of young boys. Darryl Cobb spoke on Jerome's impact, saying, "I believe he's poised to make history of his own. He's going to write his name in that book, and he's going to take a few kids with him."

Think of areas in your life where you have an impact and can be an example. In what ways could you inspire others to create generational impact and empower people to make good choices, no matter their current circumstances?

5

The Conqueror showcases Jerome's dedication to his work, community and boxing career. In many ways, he exhibits the fruit of the Spirit as he uses his platform for the common good and cares for his family.

Galatians 5:22-23 lists the fruit of the Spirit as love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Which of these did you see in Jerome as you watched the film? Do you bear this fruit in your own life?