# Pick It Up

## Ready:

"Submit as free people, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but as God's slaves.--Proverbs 24:16

#### Set

Ever since I was a little kid, I always wondered what it takes to be an Olympian. What type of characteristics does it take? What kind of person do you have to be? Now that I am one, I'm very humbled because it's not like I feel like I'm so great or that I've done anything that special to deserve to get to the Olympics.?

I feel like the thing I've done best is I've just gotten back up from all of the lickings I've taken, both physically and spiritually. I'm a pretty black-and-white person. I'll try to live the best I can, then I'll mess up and fall, and I'll get all down and upset with myself. I've learned over the years not to let myself get as emotionally down when I mess up, and I try to pick myself up off the ground quicker after making a mistake.?

I love what the Bible states in Proverbs 24:16. It really inspires me because I feel like it summarizes a lot of my physical and spiritual journeys to this point. I'm definitely not perfect by any stretch, but when I rely on God's strength, I know that I can pick myself up and keep moving forward.

#### Go

- 1. What do you think are some of the characteristics it takes to become an elite athlete?
- 2. Can you describe a time in your athletic career when you literally stumbled and failed? How did you react to that mishap?
- 3. As an athlete, what motivates you to keep moving forward after making a mistake? How does that determination translate to your everyday life and your Christian walk?

### Workout

Malachi 4:1-3

Philippians 3:12-14

#### **Overtime**

Lord, thank You for the grace that You extend when I stumble and fall. Help me to rely on Your perfect strength so that I might be able to pick myself up and press on toward the ultimate prize. Amen.



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