DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- RJ shared about McDonald's Monopoly and "cold takes" in sports. Share about a time when either you kept trying for something that seemed impossible, or when someone completely underestimated your potential. How did that make you feel?
- Disappointment vs. Discouragement: RJ distinguished between disappointment and discouragement. In your own words, how would you explain the difference between these two feelings?
- Satan's First Goal: When you're going through a difficult season, what thoughts typically go through your mind about God? How does discouragement make us question His care?
- Peter's Failure: Read Luke 22:31-32. Jesus told Peter that Satan wanted to "sift" him like wheat. What's the difference between saying "I failed" and "I am a failure"? Why is this distinction so important?
- Hiding Patterns: RJ mentioned we hide in different ways when struggling. What are some ways you've noticed people (or yourself) hiding instead of reaching out for help?
- Spiritual Warfare: How can we get better at recognizing when our discouragement might actually be a spiritual attack rather than just difficult circumstances?
- God's Pursuit: Read Genesis 3:8-9. After Adam and Eve failed, they hid from God, but God came looking for them asking "Where are you?" How does it change your perspective to know that God pursues us even in our shame and failure?
- Keep Showing Up: RJ said, "Sometimes the most powerful thing you can do is simply not quit." What's one area where you need to "keep showing up" even when it feels pointless?
- Community Safety: What makes it hardest for you to open up when you're struggling? How can our group become a safer place for people to be vulnerable?
- Hope Focus: RJ ended by saying "God isn't finished with you." What's one thing from this discussion that gives you hope for the week ahead?