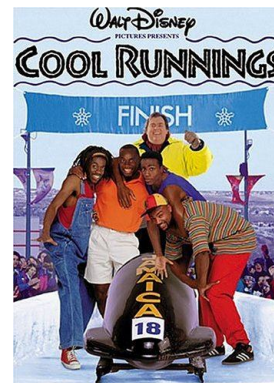




Cool Runnings

This is based on a true story about the first Jamaican bob sleigh team trying to make it to the Olympics. They experience ridicule for wanting to take part in a Winter Olympics whilst living in the hot island of Jamaica where there has never been any snow. They have many struggles on their journey, but eventually make it to the Olympics even though their bob sleigh falls apart on one run!



When using this film with your Youth Group you could compare their story with these Bible stories:

DAVID (1 Samuel 17) – David was just a young boy who helped to care for his father's sheep in the fields. One day he was asked by his father to take food to his brothers who were fighting the Philistines. When he arrived the strong giant Philistine Goliath was looking for someone to fight against him. All the Israelites were scared. But David took up his challenge. The King gave David armour to wear but it was too big and heavy for the boy. He took 5 stones from the ground and used his sling to fire it - just as he did in the fields when protecting his sheep from bears or wolves – and the stone hit the giant on his temple and killed him. David was the least likely person there to kill Goliath but he did it through his skill and reliance on God.

JESUS – Jesus was sent by God to live as a man and to die for our sins. He was often scorned for his teaching and the way he ignored the rules of the teachers of the synagogue. They often tried to catch him out. He healed people and never did any wrong but they plotted to have him killed. He never gave up even though he knew all his friends would leave him and that he would suffer and die. He relied totally on God and followed his will to the end. Because of that we have salvation.

Discussion questions:

Why did the people laugh at the bobsleigh team?
Why did they laugh at David?

What alternatives did he have?
What difference might it have made if he had given up?

What can we learn about perseverance and determination?
How might you react if God asks you to do something that doesn't seem to be common sense and where others may laugh at you?

In what ways was Jesus scorned?
Did he have an alternative life he could have chosen?
What difference would that have made?

Why do you think God chose David and Jesus?

Why does he choose you?

