Identifying What God Wants for Me?

George is a freshman at Central University. He is close to a high school athlete, Robbie, who is struggling with how to determine what God wants him to do. Robbie is feeling intense pressure in the few days leading up to the beginning of the campus visits. Those around him are wondering which of the schools will offer him a scholarship and where will he elect to spend the next four years? What his family and close friends do not understand is that Robbie is actually more anxious about where God really is leading him as he even considers college athletics in the first place.

A recent text from Robbie says, “George, I realize that all want the best for me. However, I also know that only I can make the necessary decisions. This whole thing is sometimes overwhelming. Up to this point in my life, I have lived a real structured life with year around swimming a major part. Now, it is the unknown that worries me most.”

Robbie is eighteen years old, a senior at Logan High School and an outstanding distance free style swimmer. He is being pursued by several quality college swim programs. There is no question about Robbie going to college. Any one of the final list of colleges would provide a great experience. However, he also realizes that his swimming career will end when he graduates from college. This will end a journey that has dominated him since elementary school.

Several events have recently taken place that has caused Robbie to think more deeply about his opportunity in college swimming.

In the same texting, Robbie continues, “I recently watched the Chariots of Fire movie. The verse from Isaiah that Eric Lyttle quotes has stuck in Robbie’s mind. “He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall: But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.” I want to continue to be a Christ follower in college. This strength Lyttle refers to is for those who hope in the Lord and it didn’t only apply to athletics.”

A second event caused further concern for Robbie. He had hung out last weekend with a former swimmer from Logan’s team who was just finishing his junior year as a member of a college swim team. When Robbie asked how it going, his friend replied, “I am amazed how the coaching and competition has made me the swimmer I never thought I could be. My only reservation is that swimming dominates my time out of the classroom. Not only do I not have
much free time but also when I do find such time, I am too tired to do anything else. All the training and meets make it a full year job.”

Finally, Robbie feels a strong bond with his parents. His dad had sat down with him last weekend. Robbie can remember almost the whole quote. He said, “Robbie, we are so very proud of you and will continue to be regardless of your swimming decision. Also, your mother and I have saved for your college education, so don’t worry about the scholarship.” Despite that assurance, Robbie knows his dad really wants him in collegiate swimming. It has been the primary goal of the family since Robbie began with a local swim club back in elementary school. He couldn’t count the whole time commitment his parents made to help him succeed.

As he thinks about the upcoming campus visits, Robbie knows that he must place his trust in the Lord. Not only must he evaluate the college options but he must also prayerfully find out what direction the Lord is giving him. With all the uncertainty surrounding his decision, he realizes that he needs to turn to the Bible for guidance.

**ASSIGNMENT**

As George, what scriptures would you feel are most helpful in providing a good foundation for helping Robbie through this exciting but stressful phase of his life?
My Scriptural Research:

Group Scriptural Research:

Decisions / Recommendations:

Primary Scriptural References: