



Session 5: Feared  
Suggested Week of Use: July 3, 2016  
Core Passages: 1 Samuel 12:12-22

### News Story Summary

Rory McIlroy, the top ranked golfer in the world, announced on June 22 that he would not be participating in the Rio Olympics due to the Zika virus. Vijay Sing and Marc Leishman had already announced that they would not participate in the Rio Olympics for the same reason. The mosquito-borne virus has been linked to brain defects in newborn babies. Golf will be making a return to the Olympics after a 112 year absence. Ireland's Olympic committee stated that they were extremely disappointed about McIlroy's decision, but that they respected his decision.

(For more on this story, search the Internet using the phrase "McIlroy pulls from Olympics.")

### Focus Attention

To supplement the discussion about phobias, begin by sharing the story about Rory McIlroy withdrawing from the Olympics over concerns about Zika. Invite volunteers to share their responses to his decision. Ask: *If you were a professional golfer and had an invitation to play in the Rio Olympics, how much concern would you have over the Zika virus? Explain.* Continue by calling on the group to list fears and phobias as suggested in the Leader Guide (p. 60).

### Challenge

To supplement the Summary and Challenge (p. 61, Leader Guide), remind the group of the story of Rory McIlroy. Ask: *Do you think his concern over Zika is a legitimate concern? Would you call this a healthy fear? Explain.* After allowing for discussion, explain that Samuel called on the people of Israel to have a healthy, reverential fear of God. Complete the summary and challenge as suggested.