



## Stepping Up to the Plate

Jeff Henderson

*Note: The following content is a raw transcript and has not be edited for grammar, punctuation, or word usage.*

00:00: Well, today we begin a brand-new series called Bottom of the Ninth, and as you can tell, it has a baseball theme. I thought I'd start with a little baseball trivia. How many of you remember Francisco Cabrera, the baseball player? Anybody remember? Yeah, that's a few of you, it's a few of you. If you don't know who Francisco Cabrera is, no worries, just hold that thought. We're gonna actually come back to him, and you're gonna discover that you might actually have something in common with him today.

00:22: Now, what I'd like to do for the first of minutes, I'd like to tell you why we're doing a series called Bottom of the Ninth, why we think it's important for you to be here, why we think it's important for the people in your life, and why we think it's important for you to spend the remainder of this series with us. And to do that, I want to introduce you to the question of this series, and we're gonna look at it for the entire time, and the question is, have you ever felt behind in an area of life? Have you ever felt behind in an area of life? Maybe an example that we can all relate to is our to-do list, right? Could you relate to that? A few of you? By the way, if you're at any of our churches and you've never felt behind in your to-do list, on behalf of the rest us, we hate you, okay?

[laughter]

00:58: Because... God loves you, but hey, I think for the most of us, we know what it feels like to be behind in our to-do list. In fact, if you were to do a baseball scoreboard of the to-do list versus you, maybe it would look like something like this. Does this look familiar to you? You got a ways to go, you're behind. It's 27 to three. You're feeling behind as it relates to your to-do list. Now some of you look at this and you're like, "No, that's not the scoreboard of my to-do list. Here's how I feel."

[laughter]

01:27: That's where we're going. You're getting totally stressed out just by looking at that. So I'll walk away, right? Now what if you replace to-do list with something else. Maybe... Has there ever been a season in your life when you've been behind financially? Or has there ever been a season in your life where you've been behind relationally? Maybe a relationship with your family, a family member, maybe a relationship with a co-worker, maybe the person you're dating, maybe the person