

Calvary Chapel  of Philadelphia



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY
SOCCER DEVOTIONS

Soccer Camp

Tuesday

Reaping Everlasting Life

Reaping Everlasting Life

The objective is the goal or main teaching point of today's study. If you convey one thing to your players, make it this.

Read this passage aloud to the kids, as it will be the focus of today's study.

Here is where we will discuss today's passage with the players. This can be read off the page or summarized and explained in the coach's own words.

Objective This study will teach the kids that living our own way leads to corruption, but living God's way leads to everlasting life.

Scripture Passage:

"Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. **For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.**"

Galatians 6:7-8 (today's verse in **bold**)

In the Word

Yesterday, we learned about sowing and reaping and saw that our actions have consequences. If a farmer sows (plants) apple seeds, he will reap apples. If he wants flowers, flower seeds are what he needs to plant. The same way, the way we choose to live (what we "sow") will determine the end result of our lives (what we reap).

Galatians 6:8 talks about two ways we can choose to live our lives. We can "sow to the flesh," (live the way we want and give in to our sinful desires), or we can "sow to the Spirit," (do things God's way and live how He wants us to live). In the end, living our own way brings corruption, which is every bad thing that happens to us, such as pain, failure, and ultimately death and separation from God. But if we choose to live God's way, the end result is everlasting life. That's more than just living forever; it's spending eternity with Jesus in heaven.

So does that mean that we have to be perfect or do more good things than bad in order to get to heaven? No, there is actually nothing you can do to deserve to go to heaven. We aren't saved by the things we do. We are saved when we trust in Jesus to forgive our sins. God knows we are not perfect, and so "living God's way" doesn't mean that you must never sin if you want to get to heaven. It means living a life that trusts in the Lord, doing your best to follow His commands, and asking Him for forgiveness when we make mistakes and sin. When we do that, Galatians 6:8 promises that we will reap eternal life!

Team discussion gives questions to ask your team in order to discuss today's topic. Use the information from the coaches guide to steer the conversation toward the biblical truth.

"On the Field" gives some in-game situations where today's lesson can be applied, while "Off the Field" gives examples from everyday life. Encourage them to do the things you listed during the game today.

These are some final notes/goals to accomplish today. These are not meant to be read, but are instructions for the coach.

Team Discussion

1. What did we learn yesterday about sowing and reaping? What do they have to do with the Christian life?
2. What do you think it means to live your own way ("sow to the flesh")? What does "sow to the Spirit" mean?
3. What does corruption mean? What is everlasting life?
4. How do we "live God's way"? Is it about doing enough good things to get to heaven, or something else?

On the Field

- When you break rules, make fun of other players, yell at refs, or don't listen to your coaches, you are doing things your own way, not God's way, and there are consequences.
- Playing soccer God's way doesn't mean that you don't care about winning, but it does mean that you make honoring Him and obeying His commandments more important than winning.

Off the Field

- Living life God's way means that putting activities that make God happy (reading the Bible, praying, helping others) above the things that make us happy (TV, video games, toys).
- When you are tempted to sin, remember that all sin leads to corruption. It may feel good now, but there are consequences in the end.
- Living God's way doesn't mean being perfect, but asking Him for forgiveness when you sin.

The Game Plan

1. Review Galatians 6:7-8 with your team.
2. Ask the kids how they think someone can "reap everlasting life" and be saved. We are going to do a full Gospel presentation on Friday, but can start explaining to them now about what it means to make Jesus your Lord and Savior.