

Calvary Chapel of Philadelphia



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY
SOCCER DEVOTIONS

Soccer Camp

Wednesday

Don't Give Up

Don't Give Up

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 God's promise that we will reap a harvest should motivate us not to give up on following Him.

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. **And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.**"

Galatians 6:7-9 (today's verse in **bold**)

In the Word

Farming is really hard work. Farmers have to plow the ground, plant and water the seeds, pick weeds, keep away animals, and more if they want their crops to grow. It would be much easier for the farmer to be lazy and give up, but farmers work hard so that in the end they can reap their delicious crops. The same is true of living God's way.

This week, we've been talking about the choice we have between living life our own way or living life God's way. We saw yesterday that following the Lord leads to the amazing reward of eternal life, but as you try to do the things God says in His Word, you'll soon find out that obeying God is difficult! It's not easy to be kind to your brother or sister when they are bugging you. It might sound more fun to do what you want to do than to listen to your coaches. When all your friends are doing something bad, it's tempting to join in. But Galatians 6:9 warns us not to "grow weary while doing good," (get tired of doing the right thing) or "lose heart" (give up). In other words, living God's way gets tough, we can't give up on following Him. We must continue to obey the Lord and do what's right.

Just as farmers continue to work hard when things get tough so they can enjoy their reward, today's verse promises that we will receive our reward, eternal life, if we don't give up on following God. Obeying the Lord can be difficult, and we will all be tempted to give up and live life our own way and some point, but don't do it! Instead, remember that living God's way may be tough, but it is always worth it in the end.

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. Have you tried living God's way at home this week? Has it been easy or hard? What are some of the challenges to living life God's way?
2. What do, "grow weary while doing good," and, "lose heart" mean? Why is it important that Christians don't give up on living God's way?
3. When we are tempted to give up on following God, what does our memory verse say we should remember?

On the Field

- Has someone you're playing soccer with been bothering you? Don't give up on being kind to that person. In the end, God will honor that.
- It might sound more fun to do what you want to do than listen to your coach, but God wants us to respect authority.
- Are you trying to do helpful things (clean up cones, put away soccer balls) but feel no one is noticing? Keep doing it! God sees it and it pleases Him.

Off the Field

- Doing chores might not be fun, but it honors the Lord when we obey our parents and work hard with a good attitude.
- When the people around you are doing the wrong thing, it is difficult to do what's right. In those times, remember God's promises and keep obeying the Lord.
- Don't give up on your faith, even if people make fun of you for being a Christian.

The Game Plan

1. Review Galatians 6:7-9 with your team.
2. Have the kids share areas of their lives where they find it difficult to obey the Lord. Pray for one another and ask the Lord to help everyone not to give up when following Him gets hard.