

Calvary Chapel  Philadelphia



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY  
SOCCER DEVOTIONS

**10-17 year olds**

Week 1

*One Body*

# One Body

The objective is the goal or main teaching point of this week'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 this week's study. Each week's memory verse will be in bold.

Our lessons for our older age groups are designed to be more discussion-based. This section is for the coach to read ahead of time so that he/she understands the goal of the discussion and is able to direct the conversation.

**Objective** This study will teach the kids how different Christians make up the Body of Christ the way different body parts form one body and why that matters.

## Scripture Passage:

“For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ.”

1 Corinthians 12:12

## Coaches Guide

The Church is often referred to as the Body of Christ. That analogy comes from 1 Corinthians 12. Our memory verse explains that just as a body is made up of many different parts that are all designed differently to do unique jobs, and all those parts come together to form one body, so the Church (which is not just the building, but the word the Bible uses for all believers throughout the world) is made up of many different people, but we all come together to form one Body of Christ. This season, we are going to look at what it means to be part of that Body and how it affects the way we live, think, speak, and act.

Our team is also like a body. It's made up of many different players with different skills, personalities, and appearances. Some players play offense, and others play defense, midfield, or goalie, but together we make one team. As we learn what it means to be a part of the Body of Christ, we will see that being part of this team is like a smaller version of that Body.

Each part of the body is uniquely designed for a specific purpose. God created your nose to smell, not to see or touch, yet no other part of the body can do what the nose does. The same way, we all have different gifts, talents, and personalities which God gave us to serve a specific role in the Church. Just as our bodies work best when each part does its job to help the rest of body, not just itself, the Body of Christ (and our team) will be their best when each of us tries to love, help, and bless one another, rather than just doing what makes us feel good or happy.

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 this week. These are not meant to be read, but are instructions for the coach.

## Team Discussion

1. What does 1 Corinthians 12:12 compare believers to? How is the Church like a body? What are individual Christians in this analogy?
2. When the Bible uses the word "Church," is it referring to a building, or something more? How is our team like a body or the Church?
3. Each body part was created with a specific design and purpose to help the rest of the body. What are some ways God has created you to be able to help and bless others in the Body of Christ and on our team?
4. Do body parts help the whole body, or just themselves? How is that similar to what the Body of Christ and our team should be like?

### On the Field

- Do what's best for the whole body, not just yourself, in the way you play. When each player is passing rather than hogging the ball, the team will do better.
- Being a good teammate takes place both on and off the field. Look for ways you can support them in both their gameplay and their lives outside soccer.
- Remember that the other team is part of the same Body of Christ as you. Treat them as fellow-believers, not enemies.

### Off the Field

- A good part of the body is not selfish. Think about the people around you and what they may want rather than looking out for your own needs first.
- Always be on the lookout for people you can show kindness to or help out.
- Because we are part of the same Body of Christ as other believers, we should love one another. If there is division between you and someone else, forgive and make it right.

## The Game Plan

1. Learn and memorize 1 Corinthians 12:12 with your team. Encourage them to practice the verse over the week.
2. Since we are all part of the same Body of Christ and the same team, we should get to know one another. Make sure everyone learns each other's names.
3. Emphasize a "team-first" attitude today. Have players look for ways they can help and bless others, not themselves, today.