

Calvary Chapel  of Philadelphia



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY TEACHER'S PACKET

4-9's

Sports Devos

Week 2

You will Love the Lord your God

You will Love the Lord your God

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.

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 To show the players that we should love the Lord because He first loved us and sent Jesus to die for us.

Scripture Passages:

"But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

Romans 5:8 (Memory Verse)

"We love Him because He first loved us."

1 John 4:19

In the Word

Last week, we looked at what Jesus called the greatest commandment (ask the players to recite Mark 12:30). We are to love the Lord with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength. That's a big commitment! I don't know about you, but if someone asks me to love them with everything I've got, I'm going to want to know why. What have they done to deserve that? I can tell you one thing though: Jesus is the only one who deserves to be followed that way.

Now God is the all-powerful king of the universe. That alone is reason enough for us to obey Him and do whatever He says, but Jesus asks us to do more than just obey Him: He calls us to love Him. He does not want to be the evil king who uses his strength to make us obey, but the loving Father whose children want to listen to Him out of love. He does not ask us to love Him because He demands it, but because He loved us first. How do we know that? In what way did God love us first?

Because of the wrong things we do, we are separated from God. God is perfect, but we are imperfect. Just like you don't put your dirty, stinky laundry in with your clean clothes, our sin cannot be put together with God's perfection. However, God loves us too much to let us be separated from Him forever. He sent His Son Jesus Christ to die on the cross for us to pay for our sin. Three days later, He rose from the dead, beating our sin and death. Now he can clean our hearts and take away our sin. That's amazing!

In the Word (Continued)

Do you want to know what's crazy? Jesus did this for us while we were still sinners. We were disobeying God, yet God still saved us! If that isn't love, I don't know what love is. Would you guys ever die to help a friend (pause for answers)? How about an enemy? Well that is exactly what Jesus did for us! This season, we will be looking at how to love God, but first it is important to know why we should love God. We love Him, not just because we are supposed to, but because He first loved us!

"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.

On the Field

- God loves each one of us. Be sure to show love to your teammates through encouraging and respectful words.
- Jesus forgave us even while we were sinning against him. The same way, we should show love to our opponents. Encourage the other team today even while you compete against one another. If someone wrongs you on the field today, use that chance to forgive them rather than be angry and try to get back at them.

Off the Field

- Think of someone who is unkind to you. Just as Christ loved us while we were sinners, make it your goal this week to show love to that person no matter how they treat you.
- The Bible is filled with stories and examples of how God loves us! Take time this week to read the Bible with your parents and learn all about God's love.

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

The Game Plan

1. Review last week's memory verse, Mark 12:30. Anyone who can recite it to you will get a ticket for snack stand prizes.
2. Learn and memorize Romans 5:8 with your team. Encourage them to practice the verse over the week.
3. The most important thing these kids can do today is love the Lord. Prioritize this over winning and losing today.