

Calvary Chapel  Philadelphia



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY TEACHER'S PACKET

4-9's

Sports Devos

Week 3

Thinking Humbly

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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 This lesson will look at the biblical definition of humility and present it as a model for the players.

Scripture Passages:

"For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you."

-Romans 12:3, NIV

"Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited."

-Romans 12:16, NIV (Memory Verse)

In the Word

Today we are going to talk about being humble. If you don't know what humility is, these two verses we just read give us a pretty good definition. The humble person 1) does not think of himself as smarter, faster, stronger, or in any way better than he actually is, 2) sees himself properly (not as less than he is either), 3) lives at harmony with others, 4) treats everyone with love, kindness, and respect, even people who are considered less cool, powerful, or important than him.

Some people think that humility means always talking bad about yourself. They might say things like, "I'm not very smart," or "I don't have any friends," even though those things aren't true. This is far from what true humility is supposed to look like. Being humble is not thinking less of yourself, but thinking of yourself less.

The humble mind is one that is always thinking about others, not yourself. A humble person is always looking for ways to help other people and make others look and feel good. Philippians 2:4 tells us that being humble means that, rather than looking out for our own interest, we should look out for the interests of others. Think about it, if everyone on this team was looking out for him or herself, each of you would only have one person looking out for you. But if each player was looking out for what everyone else except him or herself wanted, you each would have 9 (or however many players are there) guys and girls looking out for you. That sounds better to me!

In the Word (Continued)

Throughout the Bible, humility and peace often go side-by-side, and it's easy to see why. Have you ever been with people who only wanted to talk about themselves? Just a small amount of time with people like that can be enough to make you go crazy. But have you ever been with someone who is kind and always looking out for you? Being with those kinds of people make it very easy for there to be peace, since it is hard for people to be mad at each other when they are acting with humility and trying to bless others, not themselves. This world says that life is all about living for yourself and getting what you want, but the Bible paints a very different picture. Are we going to be humble team that cares about one another, or a selfish and prideful team without peace?

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

On the Court

- When you score a basket, make a great pass, or get a rebound, don't make it all about yourself. Celebrate what your teammates did and give glory to Christ.
- Take time to get to know some of your teammates who might not have as many friends on the team as you do.
- Be willing to do things you don't like (sit on the bench, wait to get the last snack, play a different position than normal) so that others can be blessed.

Off the Court

- Romans 12:16 says, "Associate with people of low position." This can refer to those kids at school or in your neighborhood who might not be considered "cool" or have many friends. Think of someone like this that you know and spend time with them this week.
- Pay attention this week to how often you talk about yourself and how much you talk about others. Work at making your speech more about encouraging others than about lifting yourself up.

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, Romans 12:2. Anyone who can recite it to you will get a ticket for snack stand prizes.
2. Learn and memorize Romans 12:16 with your team. Encourage them to practice the verse over the week.
3. After the game, give the players an opportunity to compliment their teammates on what they did well. Make sure the emphasis is not on personal accomplishments, but team achievement and Christ's glory.