

Calvary Chapel  of Philadelphia



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY TEACHER'S PACKET

10-17's

Sports Devos

Week 3

...With All Your Heart...

...With All Your Heart...

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 To show the players that the sin in our hearts is the greatest obstacle to loving the Lord.

Scripture Passages:

“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Romans 6:23 (Memory Verse)

“The heart is deceitful above all things, And desperately wicked; Who can know it?” Jeremiah 17:9

Coaches Guide

After starting with the “who” and “why” of loving the Lord, these next four weeks will answer the question of how to love Him. This week, we will look at loving God with all our heart.

Our culture's idea of what the heart is goes against everything the Bible teaches. Disney says follow your heart. Motivational speakers encourage other to pursue their hearts' desires. Most people today think that humans are naturally, basically good. The Bible, on the other hand, describes the heart as wicked and full of sin.

Our focus today is on sin. Sin is the obstacle we face to loving God with all we are. Even if we try to do the right thing, our natural inclination is to sin. When we get hit, our first reaction is to hit back. If someone slanders us, our natural response is to fight back. We might want to obey the Lord, but our flesh causes us to sin instead. Our memory verse today paints the picture of sin as a slave master. Non-believers are slaves to sin, and like slaves, they must give their entire lives to serving their master. Then, the end wages, or reward, for service to sin is death: eternal separation from God!

Luckily, the verse goes on to say that the gift of God is eternal life. Thanks to what Jesus did on the cross, we don't have to be slaves to sin if we believe in Him. On our own, we will never be able to overcome our sin nature. It is only by the power of God that we are able to live righteous and holy for Him.

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. The Bible uses the word "heart" to describe who we are as a person. Are people naturally good or naturally evil? Why do you think so? Discuss situations of everyday life in which our natural inclination is to sin.
2. What is sin? Why do you think God hates sin and wants us to avoid it?
3. Have you ever tried to stop sinning on your own? How did that work out? Why do we need Jesus to help us deal with our sin problem?

On the Field

- When an opponent pushes or trips us, our hearts tell us to push them back. Encourage one another to instead respond in love.
- Likewise, when the referee makes a call we don't agree with, our hearts want to argue and complain. Help your teammates to exhibit self-control during those situations.

Off the Field

- All of us have a sin in our lives that we struggle with regularly. Share that sin with another believer and ask that person to pray for you regularly. Have them ask you how you have been doing in that area later.
- Only Jesus can give us the power to obey God. Rather than trying to fight sin on our own, start each day in prayer that Jesus would give you the power to obey the Lord and follow Him.

The Game Plan

1. Review last week's memory verse, Romans 5:8. Anyone who can recite it to you will get a ticket for snack stand prizes.
2. Learn and memorize Romans 6:23 with your team. Encourage them to practice the verse over the week.
3. Make it a point that your team will exhibit self-control today. No matter what happens, as a team commit to honoring God through it. Before the game, pray that Jesus would give you the strength to love Him with all your heart.