

Calvary Chapel  of Philadelphia



# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY SOCCER DEVOTIONS

**10-17 year olds**

Week 4

*Humility and Service*

# Humility and Service

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 players to follow in Jesus' example of humility and service toward others.

## Scripture Passage:

"But Jesus called them to Himself and said, 'You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those who are great exercise authority over them. Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant. And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave— **just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.**'"

Matthew 20:25-28 (Memory Verse, Matthew 20:28, in **bold**)

## Coaches Guide

Jesus spoke today's verses when His disciples were arguing about which of them was the greatest. The disciples were thinking of greatness in worldly terms, equating it with things like wealth, status, and power. People today still prizes these things, but Christ's kingdom has different values, and His disciples pursue greatness through humble service.

Today's memory verse shows us that, just as we learned last week about love, Jesus is the ultimate example of humbly serving others. He came to earth not to see what people could do for Him, but in order to help, and ultimately save, others. One time, He served His disciples by washing their feet, performing a task usually reserved for the lowest of servants. And ultimately, He served others by giving Himself as a ransom for many when He died on the cross for our sins.

In this world, those who are considered great, the rich and famous, have people who serve them. They show their power by bossing others around. But Jesus wants His disciples to know that heavenly greatness is different. It's shown in service and humility. If we want to be considered great in God's kingdom, we need to follow Christ's example. Rather than looking for ways that people can serve us, we can pursue heavenly greatness by serving others and treating them as better than ourselves. And like Jesus, when we serve people, we don't do it with expectation that they will serve them back, but rather with the joy that it pleases Christ and the knowledge that He will reward us in heaven.

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 makes a person great? How would you define greatness? What qualities would make someone great according to our world today?
2. Do you think that Jesus fits the world's definition of greatness?
3. How does Jesus define greatness in Matthew 20:25-28 ? How is this different from the way the world defines greatness?
4. What do humility and service mean? How did Jesus demonstrate these qualities during His life on earth?
5. What is your attitude toward service? Do you find it easy or difficult to serve people or put others before yourself? What are some ways you can be more Christ-like in humility and service?

## On the Field

- Serve your coaches by asking them what you can do to help out and being obedient when they give you instructions. They will definitely appreciate it.
- You can show humility to the other team after the game either by being gracious to them if you win, or by congratulating them if you lose.
- What makes you great on the soccer field is not how many goals you score or games you win, but how you serve and treat those around you.

## Off the Field

- Look for ways you can help out around the house, even without your parents asking.
- Instead of making sure that you always get what you want and things go your way, look out for others and do what you can to bless and please them.
- God has called you as children/teens to be obedient to your parents/guardians and teachers. One way you can serve the adults in your life is by listening to them.

## The Game Plan

1. Review last week's memory verse, John 13:35, "By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another." Give a ticket to any player who can recite it.
2. Learn and memorize Matthew 20:28 with your team. Encourage them to practice the verse over the week.
3. Challenge your players to think of a way that they can serve someone today by doing something kind and helpful for a parent/guardian, coach, friend, sibling, or neighbor.