

Calvary Chapel  Philadelphia



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY  
SOCCER DEVOTIONS

**4-9 year olds**

Week 4

*Whatever is Pure*

# Whatever is Pure

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 study will teach the kids how Christ can purify us when we sin if we ask for forgiveness.

## Scripture Passage:

"Create in me a pure heart, O God,  
and renew a steadfast spirit within me."

Psalm 51:10 (NIV)

## In the Word

Today on our Philippians 4:8 list, we are going to think about things that are pure. The word "pure" means holy and clean. When you got dressed today, did you put on a dirty, smelly uniform? Hopefully not! You probably put on a uniform that was clean and fresh. You could say that it was pure. But it won't stay that way. By playing soccer, you are sure to make it dirty, sweaty, and stinky.

Unfortunately, there is something that does the same thing to our hearts: sin. Last week we studied things that are noble and right, but we don't always do the right thing. When our thoughts, words, or actions go against what God wants, that's called sin, and sin makes our hearts dirty, or impure (not pure). What's worse, while we can clean a dirty uniform by throwing it into the washing machine, there is nothing we can do on our own to make an unclean heart pure.

The good news is, God can help us. King David wrote Psalm 51 after he had done something really, really bad. He knew that his heart was unclean, and that he couldn't fix it on his own. That's why in Psalm 51:10, David asked the only One who is able to clean hearts to make his heart pure. And do you know what? God did it, and He can do the same for you!

Whenever we sin, Jesus is able to forgive our sin and give us a pure heart. All we need to do is ask. Then, once we've made things right with God, we can fix things with others and make our mistakes right. None of us are perfect. We all sin. Maybe you said something unkind to someone

## In the Word (Continued)

and now they are upset with you. Perhaps you disobeyed your parents or coach and got in trouble. Or maybe you did something wrong that no one knows about except you and God. These sins make our hearts unclean, and although there is nothing we can do to make our hearts pure on our own, Jesus can give us a pure heart. All we need to do is ask Him to forgive us. 1 John 1:9 says that if we confess our sins (admit to God that what we did was wrong), Jesus is faithful and just to forgive our sins and cleanse (clean) us from all unrighteousness. So admit your sins to God. Tell him when you've done something wrong. He can and will forgive you. Then once you've done that, go and make things right with the person you sinned against. When we admit our sins and make things right, first with God then with others, God makes our hearts pure and clean.

"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

- Did you disobey or disrespect your coach this season? First ask God for forgiveness, then apologize to your coach.
- When you say or do something unkind to a teammate or opponent, confess that sin to Jesus and make things right with them.
- Do you have a hard time doing what's right when you're playing soccer? Ask Jesus to give you a pure heart.

### Off the Field

- Are you in a fight with a friend or family member because of something you did? Jesus can forgive your sin so that you can make things right with them.
- If there is something you've done wrong that no one knows about except you and God, make sure you ask Him to forgive you and cleanse your heart.
- Jesus can forgive all your sins, but first He must be your Lord and Savior. If you've never asked Him to do this, do so today.

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 12:21 "Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good." Give a ticket to anyone who can recite it.
2. Learn and memorize Psalm 51:10 with your team. Encourage them to practice the verse over the week.
3. None of us are perfect. Your players will sin against others. When that happens, encourage them to make things right, first by asking God for forgiveness and then apologizing to the other person.