

Calvary Chapel  Philadelphia



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY  
SOCCER DEVOTIONS

**4-9 year olds**

Week 5

*Eternal Life*

# Eternal Life

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 present the Gospel and give the kids a chance to respond and receive eternal life.

## Scripture Passage:

"The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters. He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over. **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; And I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**" Psalm 23:1-6 (verse 6 in bold)

## In the Word

All season, we've been learning about how the Lord is our Shepherd and we are His sheep. He guides us, protects us, and provides for us, just like a shepherd. In today's verse, we read about the good things that the Lord promises to those who follow Him as their Shepherd.

The first promise is that goodness and mercy will follow us for all our lives here on earth. That doesn't mean that life will always be easy or that nothing bad will ever happen to us, but we can be sure that God will always be with us, blessing and helping us. The second promise is even better: we get to live in the house of the Lord forever! Everyone who follows Jesus will get to spend all of eternity living with Him in heaven.

The good news that we can live with Jesus becomes even better when we understand the bad news. What's the bad news? All of us have sin in our lives. Sin is when we disobey God in the things we think, say, or do, and our sin causes separation between us and God. Without Jesus, we would have no hope of living with God forever, but instead would spend eternity separated from Him.

But God didn't want to be separated from us forever. That's why he sent His Son, Jesus, into the world. Jesus, the Son of God, was born as a human and lived on this earth many years ago. He lived a perfect life, never sinning once, but because of wicked men who were jealous of Him, He died on a cross. He didn't deserve to be killed, since He had done nothing wrong, but He took the punishment that we deserve. Then on the

## In the Word (Continued)

third day, Jesus rose again from the dead, defeating death. Because Jesus overcame sin and death for us by dying on the cross and rising again, we can be saved and live with Him forever!

So how do you follow Jesus and make Him your Shepherd? First, you must admit that you are a sinner and ask Him to forgive your sins. Then, you need to believe that He died on the cross for your sins and rose again. Finally, you need to ask him to be your Lord (Master) and Savior. When you do that, He comes into your life and you become a part of God's family, and all the promises we read in Psalm 23:6 will be for you. You will get to live with Jesus by your side helping you, and then you will get to live with Jesus forever in heaven. What an awesome, loving Shepherd we have in Jesus!

"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

- The hope of spending eternity in heaven is greater than any game of soccer you can play. If things don't go your way on the field today, remember that knowing and following Jesus is what's truly important.
- While those in this league have heard the Gospel, those of you who play in other leagues may be able to share the good news of Jesus with their unsaved teammates.

### Off the Field

- The most important thing anyone can do in life is trust Jesus as their Lord and Savior. If you've never done that, do so today!
- The message that we can dwell in the house of the Lord forever is one that the whole world needs to hear. Talk about Jesus with any unsaved friends, family, classmates, and neighbors you have.

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, Psalm 23:5. Give a ticket to anyone who can recite it.
2. Go over Psalm 23:6 and encourage the kids to learn it on their own.
3. The most important thing we are trying to do today is present the Gospel and give the kids an opportunity to respond. Notify Chris if anyone gives their life to the Lord.