

Calvary Chapel  Philadelphia



## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY BASKETBALL DEVOTIONS

# 10-18 year olds

Week 5

*Let the Word of Christ Dwell Richly*

# Let the Word of Christ Dwell Richly

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 lesson will encourage the kids to study the Bible and apply it to every aspect of their lives.

## Scripture Passage:

“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.”

Colossians 3:16

## Coaches Guide

One of the things Christians are most known for is reading the Bible, which Colossians 3:16 refers to as “the Word of Christ.” The Bible is central to the Christian faith, as it guides us in knowing who God is, what He has done, and how we should live in response. But today's verse doesn't just tell us to read the Bible. It says to let it dwell in us richly.

Letting the Word dwell in us richly means that the Bible can't just be a book we read on Sundays. We need to be reading, thinking about, and obeying Scripture all throughout our lives. It's important for us to give time each day to the study of God's Word, and then seek to apply it to the way we live. In every area of life and every situation we face, we should be thinking about what God's Word has to say about it and then putting what Scripture says into practice.

Studying the Bible is not just an individual activity. Our verse tells us to teach and admonish (correct) our fellow believers with the Word. Christians should regularly be talking to one another about what the Bible says. We do that by studying Scripture together, discussing biblical ideas, and correcting each other when we see a fellow believer doing something that goes against what Scripture says.

One practical way we can allow the Word of Christ to dwell in us richly is through music. Notice how the verse talks about singing songs, hymns, and spiritual songs. Singing and listening to worship music fills our minds with biblical truth and helps to fix our hearts on the Lord.

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 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.

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 is the "Word of Christ," and what does it mean for the Word of Christ to dwell richly among us? What role should the Bible play in the life of a Christian?
2. Share some of your Bible reading habits with your players and ask them about theirs. Are there ways you'd like to improve?
3. Do you ever talk about or study God's Word with your Christian friends? What are some ways you can incorporate Scripture into your Christian friendships?
4. How does worship music help the Word of Christ to dwell richly among us? What role does worship music play in your life?

## On the Court

- Take the devotion time seriously. Basketball is a good thing, but learning about the Lord is even more important.
- The Bible should affect every area of your life, including the way you play basketball. What do you think the Bible has to say about the way you play?
- If you see a teammate doing something that goes against God's Word, use Scripture to correct him or her.

## Off the Court

- Church shouldn't be the only place you read the Bible. Every day, spend some time in God's Word on your own.
- Joining or starting a Bible study with your friends is a great way to spend more time in God's Word.
- Listen to worship music in order to fill your mind with biblical truth.

## The Game Plan

1. Review last week's memory verse, Colossians 3:15, "And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful." Give a ticket to any player who can recite it.
2. Learn and memorize Colossians 3:16 with your team. Encourage them to practice the verse over the week.
3. Discuss Bible reading habits with your players and encourage those who don't currently read the Bible regularly to develop a Bible reading routine.