

Calvary Chapel  of Philadelphia



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY BASKETBALL DEVOTIONS

4-9 year olds

Week 6

The Gospel

The Gospel

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 lesson will present the Gospel and give players a chance to respond, as well as encourage believers to share the Gospel.

Scripture Passage:

“Remember that Jesus Christ, of the seed of David, was raised from the dead according to my gospel, for which I suffer trouble as an evildoer, even to the point of chains; but the word of God is not chained. Therefore I endure all things for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.”

2 Timothy 2:8-10 (Memory Verse, 2 Timothy 2:8, in **bold**)

In the Word

In today's verse is a word you might not know, but it's one of the best words in the Bible: Gospel. The word "Gospel" means good news, and the good news Paul talks about in 2 Timothy 2:8-10 is the best news you can ever hear: Jesus Christ is risen from the dead!

Now maybe you don't know what that means or why it's good news. In order to understand, first you need to know the bad news. The Bible says that God created you, me, and everyone and everything around us. He made everything perfect and wanted to be with us forever, but we did something to mess that up: we sinned. Sin is anything we think, say, or do that goes against how God wants us to live. All of us have sinned before. Have you ever told lies, disobeyed your parents, or been mean to someone? That's sin. God wants us to be with Him forever, but our sin separates us from Him. The Bible says that the punishment for sin is death, which means separation from God forever.

Jesus came to fix that problem. He is the Son of God, but He was born a human just like us. He lived on earth with us, but He never sinned once, yet some people were jealous of Him and had Him killed as a criminal. When He died on the cross, He took the punishment we deserve for our sin on Himself. Then on the third day, He rose again from the dead, defeating death. He did all of that so that we can receive what it says in verse 10: salvation in Christ Jesus with eternal glory. What does that mean? It means we get to be in heaven with Jesus forever!

In the Word (Continued)

So how do we get this glory? All you have to do is admit to God that you are a sinner, believe that He died on the cross and rose again for you, and ask Him to forgive your sins and be your Lord (Master) and Savior. When we do that, He forgives us and promises that we will spend eternity with Him. If you've never done that before, you can do that today!

We can't keep news this good to ourselves. In verses 9-10, Paul says that He did whatever it took to tell other people the Gospel. Sometimes that even meant going to jail, but Paul said it was worth it so that people could be saved and get to be with Jesus forever. We probably won't go to jail for preaching the Gospel, but we should have the same passion Paul had to tell other people about the Lord. Getting to spend eternity with Jesus is too important to let anything stop us!

"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.

On the Court

- Your coaches are here because they love Jesus and believe the Gospel. If you have questions about what it means to follow Jesus, ask them!
- There may be other players, parents, friends, or family members here who have never heard or do not believe in the Gospel. Honor Jesus with the way you play and look for opportunities to talk to others about Him.

Off the Court

- If you've never been saved, don't wait! Ask Jesus to forgive your sins and be your Lord and Savior today!
- Do you have friends or family who don't know Jesus? Tell them the Gospel and ask them if they want to get saved.
- Pray for everyone who hasn't asked Jesus to be your Savior that they would believe the Gospel.

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, 2 Timothy 2:6, "The hardworking farmer must be first to partake of the crops." Give a ticket to any player who can recite it.
2. Learn and memorize 2 Timothy 2:8 with your team. Encourage them to practice the verse over the week.
3. The goal this week is to present the Gospel and give the players a chance to respond. Be sure to ask them if they want to get saved today, and let Chris know if anyone does.