

Calvary Chapel of Philadelphia



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY SOCCER DEVOTIONS

10-17 year olds

Week 7

Humility

Humility

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 players to think of and treat others as more important than themselves.

Scripture Passage:

"Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others."

Philippians 2:3-4, NIV (Memory Verse, Philippians 2:3, in **bold**)

Coaches Guide

Today's verses tell us to put off pride, a quality of the old man, and instead live in humility. Verse 3 gives the mindset of the humble person. They do nothing from selfish ambition or vain conceit, meaning that the goal of their actions is not self-promotion or to get ahead. Rather, they are humble, considering others as better than themselves. Notice that the humble person is not told to see others as equals, but above themselves. Verse 4 then tells us to put that humility of mind into action by putting the interests (needs and wants) of other before our own. Our priority should not be, "What can I do to please myself?", but rather, "How can I bless others?" True humility requires both mindset and action: valuing others above ourselves, and then working to meet their needs before our own.

Our world claims that if we don't look for ourselves, no one else will, but these verses would say otherwise. Imagine a world in which everyone lived like this. If everyone put others before themselves, we wouldn't have to worry about looking out for ourselves, since we would know that everyone else has our backs, and we had theirs.

Unfortunately, this often won't be the case. We may end up putting others before ourselves only to find that the people we try to bless aren't looking out for us in return. But Philippians 2:5-11 (which is on the last page of this packet) reminds us that this is exactly what Jesus did for us. He humbled Himself and gave His life for us, even though we were sinning against Him. When humility is tough, we ought to follow in Christ's example and show the humility He showed to others.

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 is "selfish ambition and vain conceit"? What does "humility" mean? What do Philippians 2:3-4 teach us about how to be humble? How does a humble person think and act?
2. What would our team, school, home or community look like if everyone was humble and put others before themselves?
3. Should we treat others with humility even if they don't treat us the same way? Why? Read Philippians 2:5-11 (next page). How did Jesus show humility and put others before Himself?
4. Have you ever been asked to put others and their needs before your own? What happened? What did you do?

On the Field

The old man wants to:

- Put my desires to be in the game ahead of my teammates' desire to play.
- Hog the ball and take all the shots in order to make myself look great.

Instead, the new man will:

- Share the ball with my teammates and play to help them have a good time.
- Make God's glory, not my own, the goal of my play.

Off the Field

The old man wants to:

- Make sure I get what I want before thinking of others.
- Put down other kids so that I will look and feel good.

Instead, the new man will:

- Remember that others might want what I want and give them the first chance to get it.
- Think of others and their needs as more important than me and my needs.

The Game Plan

1. Review last week's memory verse, Ephesians 5:17, "Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is." Give a ticket to any player who can recite it.
2. Learn and memorize Philippians 2:3 (NIV) with your team. Encourage them to practice the verse over the week.
3. Sports can be a place where pride is a great temptation. Emphasize with your team the importance of giving God the glory and thinking about others before ourselves on the field. Look for ways to practice humility today.

Philippians 2:3-11 (NIV)

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

Who, being in very nature God,
did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;
rather, he made himself nothing
by taking the very nature of a servant,
being made in human likeness.
And being found in appearance as a man,
he humbled himself
by becoming obedient to death—
even death on a cross!

Therefore God exalted him to the highest place
and gave him the name that is above every name,
that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.