

Calvary Chapel  of Philadelphia



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY  
SOCCER DEVOTIONS

**10-17 year olds**

Week 7

*The Fear of the Lord*

# The Fear of the Lord

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 study will teach the students what true, biblical fear of the Lord is.

## Scripture Passage:

**“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge,  
But fools despise wisdom and instruction.”**

Proverbs 1:7

## Coaches Guide

Last time, we learned about the fear of man. Today, we will study the opposite of the fear of man: the fear of the Lord. If the fear of man is worrying about what others think of you, fearing the Lord means that pleasing Him is your number one goal.

We don't typically think of fear as a good thing, but today's verse says that fear of the Lord leads to knowledge. The fear Scripture is talking about here is not a terror of God, but reverence, awe, and respect. It means recognizing that God is far greater, wiser, and more powerful than we are, and that He deserves our obedience. Yet at the same time, this fear also realizes that God loves us with such a deep, merciful love that we should want to respond to Him with love and obedience. Fearing God makes knowing, loving, and pleasing Him our top priority, and the way we please Him is by living the way He tells us in His Word. On the other hand, Proverbs 1:7 tells us that to reject that fear by living the way we want instead of how God wants is foolishness.

There are many who have no fear of the Lord. They don't take God or His Word seriously and think that they can live any way they want with no consequences. Others have a wrong fear of the Lord. They view God as always angry at them and ready to punish them the moment they do something wrong, not as our loving heavenly Father who cares deeply for us. They might obey God, but not out of love for Him, but rather fear of punishment. True, biblical fear of the Lord avoids these two pitfalls.

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 did we learn about last time? What is "the fear of man"? What do you think the opposite of the fear of man is?
2. What do you think of when you hear the phrase "fear of the Lord"? What is true, biblical fear of the Lord?
3. What does it look like when someone doesn't fear the Lord? How about when someone has the wrong kind of fear and is afraid of God?
4. What is your attitude toward God? Do you take your walk with the Lord seriously? Do you view God as angry and mean, as someone big and powerful but far away, or as a loving Heavenly Father?

## On the Field

- Fearing the Lord means recognizing that God cares about how we live, speak, and act, not just at church, but on the soccer field as well.
- Play soccer not to make yourself look good or impress others, but to please the Lord.
- All season, we've been learning in devotion time about ways to obey God while playing soccer (using our words wisely, having self-control, being humble). Fearing the Lord means putting these things into practice.

## Off the Field

- Living for the Lord can't just be one of many important things in our life. It must be our number one priority.
- When you fear the Lord, things like prayer, reading the Bible, and going to church become things you want to do because you love the Lord, not just things you have to do.
- You can show that you fear the Lord by doing what's right, even when it's difficult.

## The Game Plan

1. Review last week's memory verse, Proverbs 29:25, "The fear of man brings a snare, But whoever trusts in the Lord shall be safe." Give a ticket to anyone who can recite it.
2. Learn and memorize Proverbs 1:7 with your team. Encourage them to practice the verse over the week.
3. Today's lesson is less about practical application and more about the way the kids view God. Explore how the kids feel about God as we lead up to next week, when we will present the Gospel to the kids.