

Calvary Chapel  Philadelphia



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY
SOCCER DEVOTIONS

4-9 year olds

Week 8

Depart from Evil

Depart from Evil

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 use Proverbs 3:5-7 to present the Gospel and give the players an opportunity to respond.

Scripture Passage:

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths. Do not be wise in your own eyes; Fear the Lord and depart from evil.”

Proverbs 3:5-7

In the Word

This year, we've learned about two different ways you can live your life. You can either live God's way by trusting in the Lord and fearing Him, or you can live your own way by leaning on your own understanding and fearing man. One of these paths is the right one and leads to eternal life with Jesus in heaven. The other leads to separation from God forever. The question is, which of these paths are *you* on?

Most people believe they are on the right path and see themselves as a “good person.” However, Proverbs 3:7 warns against having this attitude of thinking you always know best, which is called being “wise in your own eyes.” The truth is, no one is a “good person.” The Bible teaches us that we all have sinned, that sin breaks our relationship with God, and that the punishment for sin is death, which is eternal separation from God. Think about all the things we've learned about this year. Have you always, perfectly spoken kind words, used self-control, and been humble? Of course not! It looks like we've all got a big sin problem.

Everyone has this problem of sin, and people have different ideas on what to do about it. Some think that if you do more good things than bad, God will accept you and you can go to heaven. But no matter how many good deeds you do, they can't erase your sin, not even if you did only good for the rest of your life. Instead, the answer to our sin problem is, as our verse says, to “fear the Lord and depart from evil.” We do that by trusting in God's solution for sin, His Son Jesus Christ.

In the Word (Continued)

Jesus was born as a human being and lived a perfect life. He never sinned once, but He was killed as a criminal on the cross, paying the price for sin that we deserved to pay. Then on the third day, He rose again from the dead, defeating death, and now is alive forever, offering the free gift of forgiveness and eternal life to all who believe in Him.

So what do you have to do to receive this wonderful gift? You just need to turn from your sin (“depart from evil”) and trust in Jesus’ death and resurrection (“fear the Lord”), asking Him to forgive your sins and be your Lord (King) and Savior. Leave your old life of sin behind and follow your new King. Asking Jesus to forgive your sins and be your Lord and Savior is the best, most important decision you will ever make, so if you never have before, ask Him to be your Savior today!

“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

- None of us will perfectly live for the Lord when we play soccer. But when you do sin, ask the Lord for forgiveness and turn to Him, and He will forgive you.
- Is there a sin you struggle with when you play soccer? Depart from that sin and turn to the Lord instead.

Off the Field

- The most important thing you can do with your life is to turn from your sin and ask Jesus to be your Lord and Savior. If you have never made that decision before, do it today!
- The message that Jesus can forgive us from sin and give us eternal life is such good news that everyone needs to know. Tell any unsaved friends, family, or neighbors about who Jesus is, what He has done in your life, and how He can be their Savior too!

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, Proverbs 1:7, “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, But fools despise wisdom and instruction.” Give a ticket to anyone who can recite it.
2. Learn and memorize Proverbs 3:7 with your team.
3. The main point of this week is to present the Gospel and give the kids an opportunity to respond. Let Chris know if anyone prays to ask Jesus to be their Savior on your team.