

Calvary Chapel  Philadelphia



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY
SOCCER DEVOTIONS

4-9 year olds

Week 8

Make Disciples

Make Disciples

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 encourage the players to share the Gospel message with others in order to make disciples.

Scripture Passage:

“And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, ‘All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. **Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit**, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.’ Amen.”

Matthew 28:18-20 (Memory Verse, Matthew 28:19, in **bold**)

In the Word

Last week, we learned about the greatest news anyone could hear: that, even though we all have sinned and deserve to be separated from God forever, God sent His Son Jesus to die on the cross and rise again in order to save us, so that if we trust in Jesus and ask Him to be our Lord and Savior, He will forgive our sins, and we become His disciples and get to be with Him forever in heaven. This incredible message is called the Gospel, which means, “Good News.”

Jesus wants you, me, and every other person on earth to be His disciples. But sadly, there are many people who don't believe in Jesus. In fact, some people haven't even heard of Jesus or what He's done for us. That's why, in Matthew 28:18-20, Jesus told His followers to go out into the world and make other people into disciples. That means sharing the Gospel message with others and teaching people about who Jesus is, what He has done, and how He can save them from their sins.

So how do you make disciples? Do you have to preach in front of large crowds, or fly to a faraway country? No, all you have to do is look for opportunities to tell people the Good News of what Jesus has done. There are many ways you can do this. You could invite a friend out to church. You could help someone in need and then share with them about the love of Jesus. Even by simply living the way God tells us in His Word, we may have chances to share about what God has done in our lives. There are opportunities all around us. We can share about Jesus with unbelievers in

In the Word (Continued)

our schools and neighborhoods, on our sports teams, and perhaps even in our own homes.

Making disciples might sound scary. Maybe you worry, “What if they don’t listen to me?” The good news is that we don’t have to do it on our own. Jesus promises to help us. In verse 18, He says that He is in charge of everything, and in verse 20 He promises to be with us always. It is Jesus who turns people into His disciples. All we have to do is obey His command to share the Gospel with others, and then we can trust in Him to take care of the rest.

Think about someone you know who doesn’t believe in Jesus. Pray that God would make them a disciple of Jesus, and then look for opportunities to share God’s love with them.

“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

- Some of you may play soccer (or another sport) in another league, or in your neighborhood. Share about Jesus with your teammates there, since they might not know about Him.
- When you get older, you can help out in our soccer league, like your coaches, as a way to make disciples among younger kids.

Off the Field

- When you live like a Christian around your unbelieving friends, they may ask you why you do or don’t do certain things. This is a great opportunity to share the Gospel.
- Look for someone you can help, such as an elderly neighbor who needs someone to rake leaves or shovel snow, so that you might have an opportunity to tell them about the love of God.
- Pray and look for and opportunity to invite someone who doesn’t know Jesus out to church with you.

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, John 3:3, “Jesus answered and said to him, ‘Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.’” Give a ticket to any player who can recite it.
2. Learn and memorize Matthew 28:19 with your team. Encourage them to practice the verse over the week.
3. Have each of the players think of someone they know who is not a believer, whom they would like to share the Gospel with. Talk about ways they can do so, and pray that that person would trust in Jesus.