

Calvary Chapel  Philadelphia



# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY BASKETBALL DEVOTIONS

## 10-18 year olds

Week 8

*New Creations*

# New Creations

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 present the Gospel by showing that believing in Christ makes us a new creation that is able to live like the new man.

## Scripture Passage:

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.”

2 Corinthians 5:17

## Coaches Guide

All season, we have looked at ways to put off the old man and put on the new man. We have studied the old man's sins of lying, selfish anger, evil speaking, unkindness, hate, foolishness, wasting time, and pride, and have looked at replacing those things with the deeds of the new man, such as truth, righteous anger, building up others, kindness, forgiveness, wisdom, and humility. Hopefully, you and your team have done your best to put these things into practice. Unfortunately, when you try to live like the new man, you soon find out how difficult it is.

The problem is sin. Sin has so corrupted us that our hearts naturally want to do the wrong thing. When we get hit, we want to hit back. When we are made fun of, we want to insult. Because God is holy and perfect, our sin separates us from Him. He did not want to be separated from us forever, so He sent Jesus to die on the cross to pay the penalty for our sins. Jesus then rose again from the dead, defeating death, and now offers us a chance to be forgiven of our sins and make Him our Lord (Master) and Savior.

When we repent (turn away from) our sins and ask Jesus to be Lord and Savior, we see in 2 Corinthians 5:17 that God makes us into a new creation. The sins of that old man that used to dominate our lives are defeated, and we receive new life. God's power helps us to live like the new man. That doesn't mean that we will never sin, as the old man is still there until we get to heaven. But by Christ's power, we can live as new creations. We can overcome the power of sin and live as the new man.

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.

## Team Discussion

1. What are the different ways we have talked about putting off the old man and putting on the new man this season? How have you been trying to do these things in your life?
2. Is it easy or difficult to live like the new man? Why?
3. Share the story of what you were like before you knew Jesus and how God made you a new creation with your team.
4. Have you asked Jesus to be your Lord and Savior? If yes, how has Jesus worked in your life to make you a new creation?

## On the Court

The old man wants to:

- Play basketball to make myself feel good and to make others like and respect me.

Instead, the new man will:

- Play to bring God glory and give Him thanks for allowing me to play.

## Off the Court

The old man wants to:

- Live for myself and continue in sin without caring who I hurt.
- Try to do the right thing on my own without trusting in God's power.

Instead, the new man will:

- Trust Jesus as my Savior and rely on His power to help me put off the old man and put on the new man.

"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.

## The Game Plan

1. Review last week's memory verse, Philippians 2:4. Give a ticket to any player who can recite it.
2. Learn and memorize 2 Corinthians 5:17 with your team. Encourage them to practice the verse over the week.
3. The main thing we want to accomplish today is to present the Gospel and offer the players a chance to make Jesus their Lord and Savior. Consider sharing your testimony to show how God had made you into a new creation.

These are some final notes/goals to accomplish this week. These are not meant to be read, but are instructions for the coach.