

Calvary Chapel  Philadelphia



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY
SOCCER DEVOTIONS

4-9 year olds

Week 9

Put It Into Practice

Put It Into Practice

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 review what the kids have learned this season and encourage them to put what they've learned into practice.

Scripture Passage:

"Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you."

Philippians 4:8-9

In the Word

Think about all the awesome things you've learned this year. Maybe this is your first year playing, and you never knew how to kick a soccer ball until this season. Or maybe you've been playing for a while, but this year your coach taught you a new way to dribble, pass, or shoot. And in our devotion time, we have learned about the things God wants us to think about so that we can say and do them. Can you think of some of the things we learned about in Philippians 4:8 this year?

Your coaches have spent a lot of time teaching you these great things, both about soccer and about the Lord. But it's not enough simply to learn them. We need to do them. Your coach can tell you all season how to kick the ball into the net, but to score a goal you have to actually do it. The same way, we can talk about what God wants us to think, say, and do during devotion time, but none of that matters if we don't go and do what we learned. This is exactly what Paul tells us.

All season we've looked at Philippians 4:8, but after that, Paul tells us in verse 9 that we need to put what we've learned into practice. Putting something into practice means not just hearing something but actually doing it, not just once or twice, but all the time. So what he is saying that we need not just to hear what God's Word says, but to go out and obey it every day. Paul mentions both the things that he taught and the example he set. Your coaches this season have done their best not only to teach you to think about, say, and do things that are true, noble, right, pure, lovely,

In the Word (Continued)

admirable, excellent, and praiseworthy, but to set the example of what those things should look like. That doesn't mean they were perfect—as we learned last week, we all are sinners—but all of your coaches are here not just to instruct you on how to play soccer, but to show and teach what it means to be a follower of Jesus Christ.

At the end of this verse, we receive a wonderful promise. Paul tells us that the God of peace will be with us. He's not saying that God will only be with us if we do what He says, but that He is always there to help us obey Him. We don't have to worry about trying but failing to live a life that is pleasing to God. He is with us, giving us the power to follow Him. So think about what you have learned from God's Word this year, then go out and do what it says, knowing that God will be with you.

"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

- It's easy to talk about showing good sportsmanship, but once the game starts, you need to actually put it into practice.
- Just as Paul set himself as an example, your coaches should be an example of what godly character should look like, and you should follow their example.
- Has your team struggled with being gracious in victory or defeat, being kind to the other team, or respecting the ref? Pray that the God of peace would help you to obey Him.

Off the Field

- We can't put God's Word into practice if we don't know what it says. Make sure to read His Word with your family.
- Who are some godly examples in your life? Make sure to learn from and follow their example.
- Whenever you read your Bible or go to church or a Bible study, try to think of ways that you can put God's Word into practice.
- When obeying God is hard, pray and ask the God of peace to be with you and help 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, 2 Corinthians 5:21 "God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God." Give a ticket to anyone who can recite it.
2. Since this is the last week, there is no new memory verse.
3. This is your final week with your team. Feel free to use this time to address anything you feel needs to be addressed with them.