

Calvary Chapel  Philadelphia



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY
SOCCER DEVOTIONS

4-9 year olds

Week 1

One Body

One Body

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 teach the kids how different Christians make up the Body of Christ the way different body parts form one body.

Scripture Passage:

“For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ.”

1 Corinthians 12:12

In the Word

Have you ever thought about how cool our bodies are? Our bodies are made up of hundreds of different parts—we have eyes, ears, skin, bones, hands, feet, a heart, a brain, and more—and each of those parts are made differently to accomplish a different purpose. Yet when each of these parts does its job, they work together to form one healthy body.

But do you know what's even cooler? The Bible tells us that our body gives us a picture of what Christians are like. In 1 Corinthians 12:12, it says that just as our eyes, ears, hands, and other parts all come together to form one body, each individual Christian is like a different part that forms one body, the Body of Christ. The Bible calls that Body the Church. The Church isn't just the name of a building we go to on Sundays, it's the people *in* the building. Our verse says that the Church is the Body of Christ, and each Christian is like a different part of that same body. Our team is also like a Body, made up of many different players who all come together to form one team.

Each part of our body is different from the other parts. Your nose, legs, hair, and tongue all look different, feel different, and do different things. The Church is the same way. Think about some of the people you know who believe in Jesus. They are all pretty different from one another. Or look around at our team. We all have different personalities, talents, and appearances. We each have a different hair style, height, and favorite food. Some like to play offense, while others prefer defense. Yet no matter

In the Word (Continued)

how different our parts of the body, fellow Christians, or teammates are, they all form one body, one Church, and one team.

Our bodies were designed to work best when all of the parts are doing their job to help the rest of the body, not just themselves. Feet don't just take themselves where they need to go, they bring the whole body with them. The heart pumps blood to the rest of the body, not just itself. The same way, the Body of Christ works best when each of us as parts of the Body work hard to love, help, and bless our teammates and fellow-Christians. Everything we do should be what's best for others, not just ourselves. This season, we will be studying what it means to be part of the Body of Christ, and how we should treat our fellow members of that Body. We will also see how our team is like a smaller version of the Body.

"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

- Parts of the body do what's best for the whole body, not just themselves. Play as a team and share the ball rather than keeping it for yourselves.
- Being a good teammate takes place both on and off the field. Look for ways you can help and show kindness to your teammates today.
- Remember that the other team is part of the same Body of Christ as you. Treat them kindly, not as enemies.

Off the Field

- A good part of the body is not selfish. Think about the people around you and what they may want rather than looking out for your own needs first.
- Always be on the lookout for people you can help and bless.
- You are part of the same Body of Christ as all other believers. That means we should love one another. If there is another believer you don't get along with, make things right.

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. Learn and memorize 1 Corinthians 12:12 with your team. Encourage them to practice the verse over the week.
2. Since we are all part of the same Body of Christ and the same team, we should get to know one another. Make sure everyone learns each other's names.
3. Emphasize a "team-first" attitude today. Have players look for ways they can help and bless others, not themselves, today.