

Calvary Chapel  Philadelphia



# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY TEACHER'S PACKET

10-18's

## Sports Devos

Week 3

*Thinking Humbly*

# Thinking Humbly

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 look at the biblical definition of humility and present it as a model for the players.

## Scripture Passages:

"For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you."

-Romans 12:3, NIV

**"Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited."**

**-Romans 12:16, NIV (Memory Verse)**

## Coaches Guide

These two verses in Romans 12 provide us with a biblical definition of humility. The humble person rightly recognizes his limitations and weaknesses rather than boasting or thinking of himself too highly. Biblical humility produces peace, as the humble person thinks of others rather than himself. The humble person also associates with everybody, not just people who he thinks are "good enough" for him.

Some people equate humbleness with thinking poorly of yourself. Such a person might point out his flaws and downplay or outright deny his strengths, but that kind of humility is false. Humility does not mean thinking less of yourself. It means thinking of yourself less. The humble person is outward-focused. Rather than spending all of his time thinking (positively or negatively) about himself, he thinks of others.

Our culture spreads the message that life is all about you and looking out for your interests, but that is not what the Bible teaches. In Philippians 2:1-4, Paul tells us that humility means not looking out for your own interests, but the interests of others. In verses 5-8, he then shows how Jesus is the ultimate example of this, as He left heaven's comforts to join in the pains of humanity so that He could save us. Humility means placing others before ourselves. If each player of your team played with his or her own interests in mind, the team would be a train wreck. The same way, God designed the Church to function when we are all living in humility, thinking of others rather than ourselves.

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.

"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.

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

## Team Discussion

1. According to Romans 12:3 & 16, what does it mean to be humble? What does humility look like?
2. Does humility mean thinking bad thoughts about ourselves? If not, how should the humble person think of him/herself?
3. Think of examples of how our culture views humility. Does the world promote humility and thinking of others? How does that differ from what the Bible says?
4. How was Jesus an example of humility? How can we copy His example?

## On the Court

- When you score a basket, make a great pass, or get a rebound, don't make it all about yourself. Celebrate what your teammates did and give glory to Christ.
- Take time to get to know some of your teammates who might not have as many friends on the team as you do.
- Be willing to do things you don't like (sit on the bench, wait to get the last snack, play a different position than normal) so that others can be blessed.

## Off the Court

- Romans 12:16 says, "Associate with people of low position." This can refer to those kids at school or in your neighborhood who might not be considered "cool" or have many friends. Think of someone like this that you know and spend time with them this week.
- Pay attention this week to how often you talk about yourself and how much you talk about others. Work at making your speech more about encouraging others than about lifting yourself up.

## The Game Plan

1. Review last week's memory verse, Romans 12:2. Anyone who can recite it to you will get a ticket for snack stand prizes.
2. Learn and memorize Romans 12:16 with your team. Encourage them to practice the verse over the week.
3. After the game, give the players an opportunity to compliment their teammates on what they did well. Make sure the emphasis is not on personal accomplishments, but team achievement and Christ's glory.