

Calvary Chapel  Philadelphia



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY BASKETBALL DEVOTIONS

10-18 year olds

Week 6

The Gospel

The Gospel

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 and give players a chance to respond, as well as encourage believers to share the Gospel.

Scripture Passage:

“Remember that Jesus Christ, of the seed of David, was raised from the dead according to my gospel, for which I suffer trouble as an evildoer, even to the point of chains; but the word of God is not chained. Therefore I endure all things for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.”

2 Timothy 2:8-10 (Memory Verse, 2 Timothy 2:8, in **bold**)

Coaches Guide

The word “Gospel” means good news, and in 2 Timothy 2:8, Paul talks about the best news man has ever heard: Jesus is risen from the dead. To understand the good news, first we need to know the bad news. The Bible tells us that all people have a problem: sin. Sin is anything we think, say, or do that goes against what God wants for His people. We all sin, and the Bible says that the punishment for sin is death. It's not just talking about physical death, but eternal separation from God.

To fix this problem, God sent His Son, Jesus Christ, into the world. Jesus was born as a man and lived a human life, but never once sinned. Despite the fact that He had no sin, people got jealous of Him and He was crucified as a criminal. On the cross, He took the punishment for sin that we deserved, and on the third day He rose again from the dead, defeating death not just for Himself, but for all mankind. Now, by believing in Him, we can have what Paul calls in verse 10 the salvation in Christ Jesus with eternal glory, or in other words, eternity with Jesus in heaven. All you have to do is confess to God that you are a sinner, believe that Jesus died and rose again for you, and ask Him to forgive your sins and be your Lord (Master) and Savior. This message is called the Gospel.

In verses 9-10, Paul talks about being willing to suffer and even go to prison in order to preach the Gospel. We should have the same zeal to share the Gospel with unbelievers we know, even if we won't face the same difficulties. The Gospel is too important for us to stay silent about it.

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. What does the word Gospel mean? What is the Gospel? Why did Jesus have to die on the cross?
2. How can we be saved? Is there anyone here who hasn't asked Jesus to be their Savior? Would you like to do that today?
3. Tell your team the story of how you became a believer. Talk about how Jesus has changed your life.
4. Paul was willing to preach the Gospel even if it meant going to jail. Do you know anyone who doesn't believe? Is there any excuse for us not to share the Gospel with them?

On the Court

- Your coaches are here because they love Jesus and believe the Gospel. If you have questions about what it means to follow Jesus, ask them!
- There may be other players, parents, friends, or family members here who have never heard or do not believe in the Gospel. Honor Jesus with the way you play and look for opportunities to share the Gospel with them.

Off the Court

- If you've never been saved, don't wait! Ask Jesus to forgive your sins and be your Lord and Savior today!
- Do you have friends or family who don't know Jesus? Tell them the Gospel and ask them if they want to get saved.
- Pray for everyone who hasn't asked Jesus to be your Savior that they would believe the Gospel.

The Game Plan

1. Review last week's memory verse, 2 Timothy 2:6, "The hardworking farmer must be first to partake of the crops." Give a ticket to any player who can recite it.
2. Learn and memorize 2 Timothy 2:8 with your team. Encourage them to practice the verse over the week.
3. The goal this week is to present the Gospel and give the players a chance to respond. Your testimony (how you became a believer) can be a powerful tool in doing so. Be sure to ask them if they want to get saved today, and let Chris know if anyone does.