

Calvary Chapel  of Philadelphia



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY
SOCCER DEVOTIONS

10-17 year olds

Week 6

Whatever is Admirable

Whatever is Lovely

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 study will teach the kids that we want admirable character so that we can point others to Jesus.

Scripture Passage:

"A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, Loving favor rather than silver and gold."

Proverbs 22:1

Coaches Guide

The next item on our Philippians 4:8 list, "whatever is admirable," refers to things that are well-spoken of or having a good reputation. People can be admired for all sorts of things, from athletics to intellect to music. As believers, we want to be admired for our godly character.

Proverbs 22:1 says that a good name is better than great riches. By "a good name," the verse is referring to a good reputation. When others hear your name, what stands out about you? What are you known for? What do others say about you when you aren't around? It's nice to be recognized for our talents and gifts, but more than anything else, we should be known for how Christ-like we are.

Godly character doesn't just mean doing the right thing when others are watching. True godliness is a life of integrity. As believers, we strive to make sure everything we think, say, and do pleases the Lord and do the things we've talked about this season. When we do, people will begin to take notice. The unbelieving world should admire us for our character and integrity and see that we are different from others.

The purpose of all of this is not to make others see us and talk about how great we are. When others admire us, whether for a talent or for our godly character, we should thank God for giving us that ability and give Him all the glory. Sometimes, when an unbeliever notices that following God makes us different from the rest of the world, it might cause them to want to become a believer.

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 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.

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 do you think "whatever is admirable" mean? Who is someone you admire and why? What are you known or admired for?
2. What does Proverbs 22:1 mean by "a good name"?
3. As Christians, what should we be admired for? What does admirable godly character look like?
4. Why should a Christian seek admiration? For our own benefit, or for something else? How can being admired lead someone to Christ?
5. Has anyone ever told you that they noticed or admired your godly character? How did you respond?

On the Field

- You may be admired for a great play you make on the field today. Instead of taking that glory for yourself, thank God for giving you the ability to make that play.
- Your first priority should be to be admired not for your soccer skills, but your godly character. Make that a goal today.
- Some of you are leaders on your team that other players look up to. If you are a leader, use that leadership to point your teammates to Jesus.

Off the Field

- We all have gifts and talents. When you are recognized for one of these, give thanks to the Lord for giving you that gift.
- The kind of character others admire is a person who does right even when no one is watching. Do something good this week that no one except you and God will know about.
- When others admire you, use it as an opportunity to present the Gospel and tell them about Jesus.

The Game Plan

1. Review last week's memory verse, 1 John 3:16, "By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down our lives for the brethren." Give a ticket to anyone who can recite it.
2. Learn and memorize Proverbs 22:1 with your team. Encourage them to practice the verse over the week.
3. Emphasize this week that you want your team to be admired first and foremost for their godly character.
4. Whenever your team or players are recognized this week, encourage them to give God the glory.