

Calvary Chapel  Philadelphia



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY  
SOCCER DEVOTIONS

**10-17 year olds**

Week 7

*Faith*

# Faith

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 players that faith is living like God's Word is true, even if our circumstances seem to tell us otherwise.

## Scripture Passage:

**"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen...** But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him."

Hebrews 11:1, 6 (memory verse, Hebrews 11:1, in **bold**)

## Coaches Guide

In Hebrews 11, we are told what faith is and given a number of examples of faith in action. Faith is present both in great miracles, like the parting of the Red Sea, and everyday trust in God, like Abel offering an acceptable sacrifice. Faith means trusting that God's Word is true and then living accordingly, even if it doesn't make worldly sense.

Verses 1 and 6 give us a fuller picture of faith. Verse 1 stresses that faith trusts in what is unseen. We don't always have physical, visible evidence to help us trust in God and His promises, so faith helps us to live like God's Word is true even when the world says otherwise.

Verse 6 adds that, to have faith, we must trust two things. First, we must believe that God exists, as obeying Him would be silly if He weren't real. Second, we must believe that He will reward our obedience. There are plenty of things we believe are true, but living according to that truth is not always worth it. We all believe that junk food is bad for us, but many people still eat it because living that way doesn't seem worth it. To have faith, we must believe not only that God's Word is true, but that obeying Him will be worth it.

Faith in our lives today would consist of living one way even though the world tells us to live the other way. It takes faith to believe that God is real, that living for Him is better than living for ourselves, or that we can and should continue to praise Him in our suffering. The Spirit gives us faith to trust these things are true and live accordingly.

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 is faith? What are some biblical examples of faith? Is faith only used to accomplish big things?
2. What does Hebrews 11:1 tell us about faith? Why is important to have faith in what is unseen?
3. What 2 things do we need to believe to have faith according to Hebrews 11:6? Why do we need to believe them?
4. What does faith look like for us today? How can we have faith?

## On the Field

- God cares about whether or not we play soccer kindly, lovingly, and fairly. It might not always seem worth it to practice good sportsmanship, especially when it seems like we can get away with pushing or insulting an opponent, but by faith we know that God sees and we should choose to do right.
- In faith, we believe that how we honor God on the field is more important than whether our team wins or loses.

## Off the Field

- When we go through hard times, it takes faith to continue to worship God and trust that He will bring us through it.
- It takes faith to stand up for Jesus and obey what He says when those around you don't believe in Him and are doing things you know are wrong.
- By faith we give our lives to God and live to please Him rather than live for ourselves and do what we want to do.

## The Game Plan

1. Review last week's memory verse, Ephesians 4:32. Give a ticket to any player who can recite it.
2. Learn and memorize Hebrews 11:1 with your team. Encourage them to practice the verse over the week.
3. Our first act of faith is our trust in Jesus Christ. Offer an opportunity for those who have never put their faith in Him to do so today.