

Calvary Chapel  Philadelphia



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY  
SOCCER DEVOTIONS

**10-17 year olds**

Week 8

*An Eternal Choice*

# An Eternal Choice

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 present the Gospel to the kids and offer them a chance to ask Jesus to be their Lord and Savior.

## Scripture Passage:

“Now all has been heard; here is the conclusion of the matter: Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the duty of all mankind. For God will bring every deed into judgment, including every hidden thing, whether it is good or evil.”

Ecclesiastes 12:13-14

## Coaches Guide

All season, we've looked at what sort of things God wants from us: justice, mercy, humility, fear of the Lord, and obedience. How we live is important because our verse today says that one day, God will look at every person's life and judge whether their deeds were good or evil.

Some people think that this means that if we are good, God will reward us, but if we are bad, He will punish us. The question is, what does it mean to be good? According to the Bible, God's standard is perfection. That means doing the right thing *every single time*. But as you try to do the things we learned about this year, such as being humble or obeying God's commands, you've no doubt discovered that perfectly doing the things God asks all the time isn't just difficult. It's impossible! We all fall short of God's perfect standard and deserve separation from God.

The good news is, God knows that none of us can be perfect, so He made a way for us to be forgiven. He sent His Son Jesus, the only man in all of history who was always just, merciful, humble, fearing the Lord, and obedient. Jesus died on the cross to pay the punishment for our sin, and on the third day He rose again from the dead, defeating death for us. Now, if you want to be forgiven of your sin and spend eternity with Jesus, all you need to do is admit that you are a sinner, trust in Jesus' death and resurrection for the forgiveness of your sins, and ask Him to be your Lord and Savior. Anyone who's never done that before is invited to ask Jesus to be your Lord and Savior today.

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. This season, we've been looking at some of the different things the Lord expects from us. What are they?
2. Have you tried to do some of the things we've learned about in team devotions this year? How has that gone? Have you obeyed perfectly?
3. Our verse today says that one day, God will judge each of our lives to see if they are good or evil. Is that good news or bad news? Why?
4. What did Jesus do to forgive our sins? How can you be saved?
5. Share the story of how you came to know Jesus with your team. Then offer the players a chance to respond to the Gospel.

## On the Field

- None of us will be perfect at doing what's right and honoring the Lord when we play soccer, but we should all seek to glorify Him and turn to Him when we mess up.
- There may be people at the soccer field who do not know the good news of what Jesus has done. Look for opportunities to share the Gospel with them.

## Off the Field

- Nothing in life is more important than trusting in Jesus as your Lord and Savior. If you haven't done that before, do it today.
- The news of what Jesus has done is too good to keep to yourself. Share it with everyone you know.

## The Game Plan

1. Review last week's memory verse, Mark 12:30-31, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength' ... And... 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'" Give a ticket to anyone who can recite it.
2. This is the last week, so there is no verse to learn for next week.
3. The main goal today is to give a clear Gospel presentation and give the kids a chance to respond. Let Chris know of anyone who accepts Jesus as their Savior today.