

Calvary Chapel  of Philadelphia



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY BASKETBALL DEVOTIONS

4-9 year olds

Week 8

New Creations

New Creations

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.

Here is where we will discuss today's passage with the players. This can be read off the page or summarized and explained in the coach's own words.

Objective This lesson will present the Gospel by showing that believing in Christ makes us a new creation that is able to live like the new man.

Scripture Passage:

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.”

2 Corinthians 5:17

In the Word

All season, we have been looking at how we can put off the old man and put on the new man. Who can remember some of the ways of the old man that we want to get rid of? (Lying, selfish anger, evil speaking, hate and unkindness, foolishness, wasting time, and pride). What about things of the new man to put on? (Truth, righteous anger, building others up, kindness and forgiveness, wisdom, redeeming the time, and humility). Looking at the two lists, we can all see which one is better: the new man. The world would be a great place if everyone treated each other that way. Even non-Christians would say that the new man is better. However, living like the new man is also much more difficult than living like the old man. How many of you have had a hard time with living like the new man this season? I know I have.

While everyone, even unbelievers, knows that it would be better if everyone lived like the new man, none of us are able to do it. That is because we all have sin in our lives. Sin is any word, thought, or action that goes against what God wants. Sin ruins everything it touches, and so we live in a world where everyone sins and lives like the old man. No matter how hard we try, we just can't live like the new man on our own.

This is why Jesus came. He is the only person in all of history to live perfectly as the new man. He never spoke evil, never hurt someone in anger, never thought of Himself as more important than others. Yet He died on the cross to take away our sin. He took the punishment for sin

In the Word (Continued)

that we deserved and died for our sins so that we wouldn't have to. Then, three days later, He rose from the dead, defeating death. Now He is in heaven with His Father and offers us forgiveness of our sins if we repent (turn away from our sin) and make Jesus our Lord (Master) and Savior.

When Jesus is your Lord and Savior, our verse today says that He makes you into a new creation. Instead of staying the way you were before you knew the Lord, Jesus makes you into something new: the new man! That happened to me when I got saved (share an example of how you used to be before you knew Christ and how He has changed you). It will happen to you to if you believe. This doesn't mean that you want sin anymore—the old man doesn't go away until we get to heaven—but by Jesus' power, we can beat the power of sin and live as the new man.

"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.

On the Court

The old man wants to:

- Play basketball to make myself feel good and to make others like and respect me.

Instead, the new man will:

- Play to bring God glory and give Him thanks for allowing me to play.

Off the Court

The old man wants to:

- Live for myself and continue in sin without caring who I hurt.
- Try to do the right thing on my own without trusting in God's power.

Instead, the new man will:

- Trust Jesus as my Savior and rely on His power to help me put off the old man and put on the new man.

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

The Game Plan

1. Review last week's memory verse, Philippians 2:4. Give a ticket to any player who can recite it.
2. Learn and memorize 2 Corinthians 5:17 with your team. Encourage them to practice the verse over the week.
3. The main thing we want to accomplish today is to present the Gospel and offer the players a chance to make Jesus their Lord and Savior. Consider sharing your testimony to show how God had made you into a new creation.