

Calvary Chapel  Philadelphia



# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY TEACHER'S PACKET

4-9's

## Sports Devos

Week 8

*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.

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** To present the Gospel to the players, showing them that only by putting their faith in Christ can they love the Lord with all their heart, soul, mind, and strength.

## Scripture Passages:

"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,"  
Romans 3:23

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."

John 3:16

## In the Word

All season, we have looked at what Jesus said were the two most important things a person can do: love the Lord with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength and love your neighbor as yourself. So all you have to do is all of that, all the time, perfectly for all your life and you can please God. Sounds easy right? Of course not!

Romans 3:23 tells us the bad news: all of us sin and don't meet God's perfect standard. But we also know that from experience. All year, we have tried to honor God with the words we speak, but we fail. We try to do the right thing, but we sin. We try to love others, but our selfishness gets in the way. (Have some players share some experiences of failure trying to obey God). All of us fail in trying to love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength, and as we learned in one of our earlier memory verses, the wages of sin is death. That sounds like really bad news!

Luckily, we have great news too! John 3:16 tells us that God so loved the world that He sent Jesus to help us. Jesus lived a perfect life. He loved the Lord with all His heart, soul, mind, and strength every day. However, He was killed as a criminal, even though He did nothing wrong. Why? He was paying the penalty for our sins. Imagine if you committed a crime, but someone agreed to go to jail for you. The same way, Jesus paid the price for our sin by dying on the cross. However, He did not stay dead, but He rose again on the third day and now He is alive forever. He offers anyone who trusts in Him forgiveness from their sins.

## In the Word (Continued)

Jesus saving us from death and taking us to heaven is great and is something to look forward to, but did you know that Jesus also changes our lives here on earth? Without Jesus, it is impossible to love the Lord with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength or to love our neighbor as ourselves. But when we trust Jesus and give our lives, He gives us the power to do those things in His strength, not ours.

So what do you need to do to be saved? You have to admit that you are a sinner who has broken God's law. You must believe that Jesus really did die on the cross for our sins and rise again. And you need to ask God for forgiveness and ask Him to be your Savior and Master. When you do this, you can join the family of God!

"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.

### On the Field

- Without making Jesus your Lord and Savior first, none of the things we talked about this year are possible. If you haven't yet, ask Jesus to forgive your sins and be your Lord and Savior.
- You can't love the Lord on your own strength. Only Jesus can do that through you. Whenever you are tempted to sin on the soccer field, ask Jesus for help to follow Him and keep His commands.

### Off the Field

- Just like on the soccer field, without Jesus' help you cannot obey God in everyday life. Think about a sin in your life that you struggle with and ask Jesus to help you overcome that sin.
- The news that Jesus is so great that everyone needs to know. Think of friends and family that are not Christians and tell them all about how Jesus can be their Lord and Savior too.

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, Mark 12:31. Anyone who can recite it to you will get a ticket for snack stand prizes.
2. There is no memory verse this week, as it is the final week.
3. **Invite the players to ask Jesus to be their Lord and Savior. Stress to them that this is the most important decision they could ever make. Playing soccer is great, but without Jesus, this all becomes meaningless. Welcome any new believers into the family of God.**