

Calvary Chapel  Philadelphia



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY BASKETBALL DEVOTIONS

10-18 year olds

Week 9

Doers of the Word

Doers of the Word

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 lesson will encourage the players to put into practice the things they have been learning this season and be doers of the Word of God.

Scripture Passage:

"Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls. But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does."

James 1:21-25

Coaches Guide

This season, we have looked at many ways we are supposed to put off the old man and put on the new. We studied telling the truth, anger, using our words, our communities, wisdom, and humility. Last week, we saw how living like the new man is only possible when Jesus is in our life as our Lord and Savior. We have learned a lot this season, but today we are going to see that learning all these things accomplishes nothing if we don't put what we have learned into practice.

James 1:21-25 tells us not to be simply hearers of the Word of God, but doers. Someone who is only a hearer is a person who hears the Word of God, but doesn't do what it says. A doer is someone who both listens to the Bible and does what it says. The problem is not with hearers, since you have to hear the Word first before you know how to do what it says, but people who only hear and don't obey. James compares that to a man who looks in a mirror and then walks away and immediately forgets what he looks like—it defeats the whole purpose of looking into a mirror! The same way, reading or hearing the Bible without doing what it says does not fulfill God's purpose.

Some of the topics we've covered this season may come easy for you, but I'm sure we all struggle with at least a few of them. Part of the Christian life is about identifying these areas of sin in our lives and asking God to help us to be a doer of His Word. When we look to do that, we are putting off the old man and putting on the new man.

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.

Team Discussion

1. Review the topics we've discussed this season. Which ones have been the hardest to do?
2. What do you think it means to be a hearer of the Word? What about a doer of the Word?
3. Why is it so important to be a doer of the Word and not just a hearer?
4. How can you take what you've learned this season and put it into practice?

On the Court

The old man wants to:

- Play with the same selfishness, pride, anger, evil speaking, or other parts of the old man that I played with at the beginning of the season.

Instead, the new man will:

- Work on the parts of the new man I learned about this year.
- Continue to look for new ways to obey God's Word when I play basketball.

The Game Plan

1. Review last week's memory verse, 2 Corinthians 5:17. Give a ticket to any player who can recite it. There is no new verse this week as this is the final week of the season.
2. Have the players try to think of one lesson from this year that they feel they need to work on. Encourage them to put that lesson into practice during the game today and in their everyday lives.
3. Since this is the last opportunity you will get to be with your team, give your players one more opportunity to ask Jesus to be their Lord and Savior.

"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.

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

Off the Court

The old man wants to:

- Ignore everything I've learned in devotions this season and keep living like the old man.
- Be a doer of the Word only when it is easy.

Instead, the new man will:

- Try to work on the areas of the old man that are hard for me and be a doer of the Word.
- Continue to look for ways to put off the old man and put on the new man.