

Calvary Chapel  of Philadelphia



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY BASKETBALL DEVOTIONS

4-9 year olds

Week 9

Preach the Word!

Preach 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.

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 encourage the kids to take the things they've learned this year and pass it on to others.

Scripture Passage:

"Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching."

2 Timothy 4:2

In the Word

This season, we've been learning about Paul's letter to Timothy and what it teaches us about living for God. Hopefully you learned a lot this year. Maybe you learned that God wants us to endure suffering like a soldier, follow His rules like an athlete, or be hardworking like a farmer. This season might be the first time you heard the Gospel, the good news that Jesus died on the cross and rose again to forgive your sins. Now that you've learned these things from the Bible, you have an important job to do, which we read about at the end of 2 Timothy: preach the Word.

After telling Timothy all the things he needed to know in the letter, in 2 Timothy 4:2 Paul says to preach the Word, which means to tell others about the Bible and the things you learn in it. This command was not just for Timothy. All Christians must preach the Word. Paul tells Timothy to preach "in season" (which means when you're ready) and "out of season" (when you're not ready). Talking about God's Word isn't just something we do at church or Sunday School. We always need to be ready to tell people about Jesus, whether we are at church, home, our neighborhood, school, or anywhere else at any time.

So how do we preach the Word? The end of our verse has some big words that show us how to do that. First, it says "convince." That means showing people why they should believe in Jesus. "Rebuke" means to tell someone that what they're doing is sinful and wrong and show them what the Bible tells us to do instead. "Exhort" is another word for encourage or

In the Word (Continued)

give directions. “Teaching” is telling someone what they didn’t know before. So preaching the Word means telling people who aren’t Christians what the Bible teaches and why they should believe, as well as reminding other believers what God’s Word says and encouraging them to do what’s right. You don’t have to know everything about the Bible to do this. Just take what you do know and share it with other people. Sometimes preaching the Word is hard and people don’t listen, which is why the verse mentions having “longsuffering,” or the ability to keep doing what we’re supposed to be doing even when things get tough.

I hope you learned a lot this year about God and His Word, and that you are doing the things we’ve talked about in devotions. Now it’s time for you to take the things you’ve learned and teach them to others.

“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

- If your teammates are doing something the Bible says is wrong, remind them of what God’s Word says.
- When you see your teammate doing something that honors the Lord on the basketball court, encourage them.
- Be ready to talk about God’s Word at basketball. You never know when an opportunity to tell people about Jesus will come.

Off the Court

- Tell your friends and family all about the things you’ve learned this season in God’s Word.
- When you see your friends doing something that’s wrong, kindly and lovingly remind them of what the Bible says.
- Be ready for opportunities to share the Gospel with anyone. You never know when you’ll meet someone who isn’t a Christian.

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, 2 Timothy 2:15, “Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.” Give a ticket to any player who can recite it.
2. Since this is the last week, there is no new memory verse.
3. Take some time with the kids to review some of the things you’ve learned this year.
4. Feel free to use this last time with your team to talk about anything you think would be beneficial.