



***COACH*** *GUIDE*

***MORE THAN A GAME***

At the end of each practice huddle your team together to review the weekly word; each word will be discussed for 2 weeks. Use the first week to review the scripture verse, discuss the questions, and present the challenge. During the second week allow the players to share how they applied the previous week's challenge. Award two certificates each week to the players that exemplified the challenge. Close each practice with prayer.

## AUG 13-23: **AMBASSADOR**

We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. *2 Corinthians 5:20*

- **What does the word ambassador mean?** (messenger, representative)
- **As ambassadors for Christ, what challenges might we face playing other teams?** (poor sportsmanship, mockery, name calling)

**Challenge:** Think about how you can be an ambassador for Christ on the field this season.

## AUG 27-SEP 6: **KINDNESS**

But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. *Luke 6:35*

- **Is there anyone in your class that's not kind to others?**
- **How does that make you feel?**
- **How can you show kindness to others even if they are unkind to you?**

**Challenge:** Look for someone who is having a tough time and show them some extra kindness.

## SEP 10-20: **RESPECT**

So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you. *Matthew 7:12*

- **How can we show respect to others?** (listen, obey, honor)
- **Who deserves our respect?** (EVERYONE, all the time)

**Challenge:** Show respect to your parents, teachers, and coaches by listening and not talking back.

## SEP 24-OCT 4: **EFFORT**

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters. *Colossians 3:23*

- **What are some areas of your life that require effort?** (chores, school, sports)
- **What does it mean to work for the Lord?** (to do work without looking for acknowledgment from people)

**Challenge:** Focus on giving your best effort at home, school, and sports.

## OCT 8-18: **TEAMWORK**

But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. If they were all one part, where would the body be? As it is, there are many parts, but one body. *1 Corinthians 18-20*

- **How would our bodies function if we had two left feet? Or no thumbs?** (we would struggle, not be as efficient)
- **How well would a team play if the players all tried to play the same position?** (would struggle, need all positions covered to be our best)

**Challenge:** Encourage your teammates by telling them how they bring value to your team.

## OCT 22-NOV 1: **SERVICE**

Whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant... just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many. *Matthew 20:26-28*

- **How can you serve others on your team?** (clean up, get their water)
- **What keeps you from putting others before yourself?** (selfishness)

**Challenge:** Find a special way to serve someone in your neighborhood

## NOV 5-15: **SACRIFICE**

Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friend. *John 15:13*

- **Who are the people in your life that demonstrate sacrifice?** (parents, teachers, coaches)
- **Do you have any family members that are veterans or active military?** (connect how they sacrifice for their country)

**Challenge:** Invite the veterans in your life to be honored for their sacrifice as part of this weekend's pre-game coin toss.

## NOV 26-DEC 6: **GRATITUDE**

Rejoice always, pray continuously, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. *1 Thessalonians 5:18-20*

- What are some things you're thankful for? (family, friends, church, games)
- Do you focus more on the things you do have or the things you don't have?

**Challenge:** Every day this week write down three things you are grateful for.

## DEC 10-20: **SAVIOR**

Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. *Luke 2:11*

- What are some of your favorite Christmas traditions?
- Does your family do anything special to celebrate Jesus' birthday?

**Challenge:** Read Luke 2:1-20 to learn more about the Savior's birth and the meaning of Christmas.

## JAN 7-17: **RESPECT**

So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you. *Matthew 7:12*

- How can we show respect to others? (listen, obey, honor)
- Who deserves our respect? (EVERYONE, all the time)

**Challenge:** Show respect to your parents, teachers, and coaches by listening and not talking back.

## JAN 21-31: **EFFORT**

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters. *Colossians 3:23*

- What are some areas of your life that require effort? (chores, school, sports)
- What does it mean to work for the Lord? (to do work without looking for acknowledgement from people)

**Challenge:** Focus on giving your best effort at home, school, and sports.