

We Are Teammates (“Fellow workers”) on God’s Winning Team
1 Corinthians 3:9
Discipleship Emphasis 2021
September 26, 2021

Bible Study 3: Giving Our Team Our Best

Student Guide

The sports world is filled with cliches. In this Bible study we are going to discuss some of these sports cliches as they relate to our lives as teammates on God’s winning team. I have provided some Bible passages to stimulate and guide our discussion.

Cliché #1: *“She’s a gym rat.”* What does a “gym rat” look like on God’s team? Who do you think of as a “gym rat” in the Bible? Today?

- **Psalm 1:1-2**

Cliché #2: *“He’s a workhorse.”* What’s a “workhorse” look like on God’s team? What are the pros and cons of a “workhorse?”

- **1 Kings 19:9-10, 15-18**
- **Galatians 6:2**

Cliché #3: *“She brought her “A” Game today.”* Or *“He gave 110 percent.”*

- **Luke 10:27**
- **Philippians 1:21**
- **Colossians 1:28-29**

Cliché #4: *“He’s on the hotseat.”* When have you found yourself on the “discipleship hotseat?”

- **King Saul: 1 Samuel 15:23,**
- **Daniel: Daniel 6:5-12,**
- **Peter’s denial/Peter’s restoration: Luke 22:54-62, John 21:15-17,**
- **John Mark: Acts 15:36-41**

Cliché #5: *“A player is only as good as the team around him.”* How does this cliché relate to St. James’ team?

- **1 Corinthians 3:5-9**
- **1 Corinthians 12:14-26,**
- **Philippians 1:3-5**

Cliché #6: *“We beat ourselves.”* How do we “beat” ourselves as individuals and as a team?

- **Israelites: Hebrews 3:15-19,**
- **Disciples arguing over who is the greatest: Luke 22:24-30,**

Cliché #7: *“It’s going to be a long flight home.”* Describe a time when you felt a deep sense of loss or were demoralized as a disciple of Jesus Christ, either as an individual or as a teammate?

- **Jacob returns home and meets Esau: Genesis 30:25-35:29**
- **Rich young man: Mark 10:17-27**
- **Disciples on Good Friday: John 19:38-42, (cf. John 20:19-29, Disciples hiding in the upper room)**

Cliché #8: *“We’re taking it one game at a time.”* How does this cliché relate to your congregation? To your life of discipleship?

- **Joseph: Genesis 50:15-21**
- **Job: Job 2:9-10**

Cliché #9: *“They know what it takes to win.”* What does it take for God’s team to win? For individual teammates to win?

- **Christ’s death and resurrection: 1 Peter 1:3-9, 18-21**
- **The armor of God: Ephesians 6:10-20**
- **David/Goliath: 1 Samuel 17:45-47**
- **Paul: 1 Corinthians 9:24-27**

Cliché #10: *“They’re all on the same page.”* Or *“They’re all in.”* How do you know God’s team is all on the same page? What does it look like in congregation when *“they are all in?”*

- **Unity: Ephesians 4:1-6, 11-16**
- **Doctrinal agreement in confession and practice: 1 Timothy 6:3-6, (Cf. Romans 16:17-18)**
- **Encouraging one another:** There are 59 *“one another’s”* in the New Testament! (Here are some of these verses: cf. Mark 9:50; John 13:14; John 13:34; Romans 12:10; Romans 12:16; Romans 14:13; Romans 15:7; Romans 15:14; 1 Corinthians 12:25; Galatians 5:13; Galatians 6:2; Ephesians 4:2; Ephesians 4:32; Ephesians 5:19; Ephesians 5:21; Philippians 2:3; Colossians 3:13, 16; 1 Thessalonians 4:18; 5:11; Hebrews 3;13; Hebrews 10:24; James 4:11; James 5:9, 16; 1 Peter 3:8; 1 Peter 4:9)

Cliché #11: *“We overcame a lot of adversity.”* Share a time when this congregation overcame a lot of adversity? Share a time when you overcame adversity?

- **Romans 5:3-5**
- **Romans 8:35-39**

Cliché #12: *“The final score is the only stat that matters.”* How does this cliché relate to your life of discipleship on God’s team? How does it relate to the work of God’s team as whole?

- **Matthew 23:27-28**
- **1 Timothy 2:3-6**
- **1 Corinthians 9:27**
- **2 Timothy 4:6-8**
- **Revelation 2-3, The Seven Churches of Revelation, see for example: Rev. 3:1-6, the church in Sardis.**
- **Revelation 7:9-17**