

# **CHAMP SPORTS DEVOTIONAL**



## **FALL 2020**

CHAMP Office – 704.341.5387

Weather Hotline – 704.341.5473

[www.champsportsinfo.com](http://www.champsportsinfo.com)

# Welcome to CHAMP Sports!

## Mini Season 2 Schedule

October 22 – November 14

Groups meet once a week for 1 ½ hours.

Meeting format: 1) Warm-ups and skill building (30 minutes). 2) Devotion (10 minutes). 3) Scrimmage (50 minutes).

For any questions or concerns,  
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Weather Hotline: 704.341.5473  
Updated Mon-Fri. at 3:00 PM; Sat. at 7:30 AM

Join us weekly for Sunday morning  
worship via livestream or in person. Check  
[www.calvarvchurch.com](http://www.calvarvchurch.com) for details and times.

**Please remember to pray for your team and their families!**

# Welcome to CHAMP Sports!

*Week of October 19-24, 2020*

Welcome to CHAMP Sports! We are glad that you are here! Over the next weeks we will be talking about God and things that we can do to get to know Him better. There is nothing more important in life than getting to know God. In fact, God tells us that, “This is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent” (John 17:3).

One thing that is very important to God is wisdom. Of wisdom, God says, “Get wisdom; get insight; do not forget, and do not turn away from the words of my mouth. Do not forsake her (wisdom), and she will keep you; love her, and she will guard you. The beginning of wisdom is this: Get wisdom, and whatever you get, get insight. Prize her highly, and she will exalt you; she will honor you if you embrace her” (Proverbs 4:5-8).

What is wisdom? Wisdom is seeing things as God sees them. Wisdom is understanding things as God understands them. There are two kinds of wisdom: 1) God’s wisdom, and 2) the world’s wisdom. God’s wisdom comes to us through His Son, His Spirit, and His Book, the Bible. The world’s wisdom comes to us from Satan and the lie that he told us in the Garden of Eden.

Satan’s lie was that we could “be as God.” Of course, we can’t be as God! God is eternal. God is all-powerful. God is Love, Light, Goodness, Truth, and Life! We are none of these things. Trying to become like God in His eternal Godhead and glory will never work. We can try forever to become like God, and we will never make any progress!

The good news is that God didn’t make us to be like Him! He made us to be containers in which He can live. When God lives inside of us, He is the Light, Life, and Goodness inside us. When God is in us, He is our wisdom, our righteousness, and our truth.

Living with God inside of us is an incredible thing! All of sudden, we have strength that isn’t ours, wisdom that doesn’t begin with us, and love that is beyond anything that we could imagine. Just like a surfer catching a wave, or an eagle catching an updraft, God lifts His children up in His own endless life.

If we are going to be fully alive—if we are going to have true wisdom—we need to have God living inside of us. Do you have God living inside of you?!

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**1 John 5:11**

**And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.**

*Questions: How do we get wisdom? What is your favorite Bible verse?*

**Please remember to pray for your team and their families!**

# Trusting God

Week of October 26-31, 2020

Jesus told us that if we are going to enter into God's Kingdom we must "become as little children" (Matthew 18:3). Do you know what little children are good at? They are good at trusting.

Each of us, when we are born, trust our parents. We can't do anything for ourselves. We have to look to our parents to feed us and to clothe us. As we get older, we have a choice. We can trust in our jobs, in our money, and in our own smarts to get us food and clothing, or we can look to God to provide for us.

God wants each one of us to work hard and to work smart, but God never wants us to put our trust in ourselves and what we are able to do. God wants us to put our trust in Him and what He is able to do.

Jesus taught us saying, "No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money. Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?" (Matthew 6:24-26).

Learning to trust God can be scary. What if I trust God and He lets me down? What if I need something and God doesn't notice? What if God is too busy to care about me? It is easy to think these things. Maybe that's why Jesus told us, "Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? And not one of them is forgotten before God. Why, even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not; you are of more value than many sparrows" (Luke 12:6-7).

In order to trust God well, we must believe deep down in our hearts that He is good and that He loves us. Do you believe that?! Do you know God as your Father? Is He the One you run to when your heart hurts? Is He the one you can't wait to talk to about your day? Is He your best and closest friend? If not, He wants to be all these things in your life! Will you trust Him?!

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## **Romans 15:13**

**May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.**

*Questions: How can we practice trusting God each day? Why should we trust God?*

**Please remember to pray for your team and their families!**

# Fellowship with God

*Week of November 2-7, 2020*

The invitation to become a Christian is an invitation to become a part of God's family. God's Son, Jesus, made a way through His life, death, burial, and resurrection for us to be adopted into God's family!

In order to become God's children, we must "believe in the Lord Jesus" (Acts 16:31). What does it mean to "believe in the Lord Jesus"? Believing in the Lord Jesus includes a number of things:

1) We must believe that Jesus lived a perfect human life. How did Jesus live a perfect human life? He walked with God and "always did the things that are pleasing to the Father" (John 8:29). Jesus is the first and only human to have walked in perfect reliance on the Father and in perfect obedience to the Father! This is what makes Jesus so special! This is what makes Jesus *the Way!*

2) We must believe that Jesus' death was our death. Jesus didn't deserve to die. He never sinned! Jesus died *for* us because we deserved to die. Without Jesus' death *for* us, we would each face God's judgment, be found guilty, and be sentenced to the second death. However, because Jesus laid down His life for us, He paid the penalty for our sins and made a way for us to escape the second death!

3) We must believe that Jesus was buried. Why was Jesus buried? He was buried so that the sinful human nature that Adam and Eve gave to the human race could be put away by burial. God doesn't want us to live in rebellion against Him. Thus, Jesus allowed our rebellion and sin to be put on Him and then He carried rebellion and sin into the grave and left them there!

4) We must believe that God raised Jesus from the dead! Why? Because if Jesus wasn't raised from the dead, then we are still in our sins, and we have no hope. The good news is that God the Father did raise Jesus from the dead, and now we can be joined to the resurrected Jesus through being born again by the Holy Spirit! Once we are joined to Jesus, we become part of God's family and our new lives in Christ begin.

Life in Christ Jesus is a life of deep fellowship with God. Fellowship with God means that our hearts and minds become so perfectly united to God that God's desires become our desires and God's thoughts become our thoughts. We were made for this! We were made to know God and to be known by God! Do you know God? Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

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**1 John 4:13**

**By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit.**

*Questions: If you were going to tell a friend about Jesus, what would you say?*

**Please remember to pray for your team and their families!**

# Celebration!

*Week of November 9-14, 2020*

God created the world and everything in it in six days. On the seventh day God rested. God didn't rest because He was tired. God never gets tired! God rested because it was time for Him to stop working and rejoice over His creation!

Our God likes to celebrate. His heart is big. He is generous. He is good and full of ecstatic joy! God is delighted with who He is and what He does! Just like a painter who finishes a painting and then steps back to enjoy the painting, God finished creating and then He stepped back and said, What I've made is "very good" (Genesis 1:31).

God wants us to join Him in His celebration! We are made in God's image and likeness. We are made to know God and to participate in His life.

When Jesus was here on this earth He went about "doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him" (Acts 10:38). At the end of each day, Jesus could look back on the day and see all of the good things He had done as He had been "about His Father's business" (Luke 2:49). Every night Jesus could fall asleep celebrating the good works that He and his Father had done together.

Jesus wants us to participate in His life. Just as Jesus went about doing the works of His Father (John 10:32), Jesus says, "Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father" (John 14:12).

If we will allow God to work in us, we will grow up Jesus Christ, and we, like Jesus, will do works "from God the Father." Then, as we see God working, we too will step back in wonder and celebrate the works of God.

Today, God is doing a great work. He works so that we will believe in His Son Jesus Christ (John 6:29). When God is done with His work, all of His children will be complete in Jesus Christ. And then, forever and ever, God will rejoice over us with gladness and exult over us with loud singing because of what He has made!

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## **Zephaniah 3:17**

**The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing.**

*Questions: What are some of the great things that Jesus has done? Is Jesus working in your life?*

**Please remember to pray for your team and their families!**