

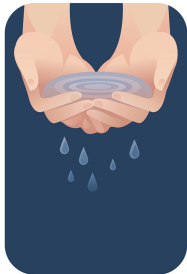
Consider this!

HOW IS YOUR GAME?

Have you ever thought about how life is like a game? There is the tip off, the first serve, the first pitch, you know, the beginning of the game just like the time you were born, the start. During the course of this game there are many decisions and choices to make. What kind of defense will we play against our opponent? Who plays front row? Who's the main shooter? Will I play infield or outfield? What other players will I be surrounded by? What kind of effort will I put in? If I get tired and bored, will I quit?

Kind of like life you see. We are born. **The game starts.** We grow, we make decisions, we try different things, we choose our friends, sometimes we give a good effort, and sometimes we get lazy. Often we get bored, and we quit. You know how it goes. And then, at some point in time we die.

Game Over



We all play a different game and a different position in that game. Some people in third world countries play a game each day called survival, not like the TV shows. Their main game plan is to try to find some food to eat and some water to drink. This may mean getting up early to hang out at the dump to be one of the first ones to sort through the new trash that was brought in. Victory comes in their game when they find some food, eat it, and don't get sick. And of course they don't go to Applebee's to unwind after their game. They fall asleep exhausted on the ground. Their game will be short.

The question we all need to ask ourselves is, "How is our game going?"

We are so fortunate that we live in an area that we pretty much have everything we need. Maybe not everything we want, but what we need. There is a big difference. Are we making our lives count? Are we going through the motions of our game in attitudes of laziness, jealousy, compromising right and wrong? Are we getting caught in the trap of only thinking about ourselves, just doing what it takes to get ourselves ahead?

We only get to play this game God gives us one time. Are we really looking to Him for guidance? Are we giving it all we have? Are our actions and words showing that Christ lives in us? Are we leaving a positive or a negative impact?

We need to really step back and evaluate our games. Before you know it the horn will blow, the last out will be made, the seconds will run out and the game will be over. **Play your game in a way that avoids technical fouls and have no regrets!**

Challenge to Consider! Read Proverbs

Proverbs begins with a clear statement of its purpose—to give wisdom for Godly living. The first few chapters are Solomon's fatherly advice to young people. Although most of the material in this section is directed toward young people, all that seek wisdom will greatly benefit from these wise words. This is where you can discover: the source of wisdom, the value of wisdom, and the benefits of wisdom. The real game plan.