



LIFEgroup Homework

Week of March 15, 2009

Building a Successful Team

Ephesians 4:1-12

Have you ever been on a winning team? It could be an athletic team, a team at work, a short term mission team, or even a team working on a community project together. What was it that made that team successful?

Pastor Stan helped us to understand that God has invited us on His team, the greatest team ever assembled in the history of mankind. We are joining a team that has 2,000 years of success and includes the likes of John the Baptist, William Carey, Martin Luther, Augustine, Jonathan Edwards and William Tyndale, Zinzendorf, Bonhoeffer, Finney and Calvin. There is a long line of heroes of the faith who sacrificed for the team and whose lives still cry out to us, "go for it! Run the race of faith with all you've got. You will never regret it!" (Hebrews 12:1-3)

The NY Yankees have nothing on this team of superstars in God's Hall of Faith. And remember, you were not drafted onto this team because of what you have to offer, but only because the Coach loves you so much that He invited you to join.

Sharing Question:

What has been your best "team" experience? Why?

Getting Started (questions):

What was one testimony, insight, principle, Scripture passage or comment from Sunday's message that you remember most?

Homework:

Read Ephesians 4:1-12

Does unity require uniformity?

Read Ephesians 4:1

What does it mean to live a life that is worthy of God's calling?
(Review Ephesians 1-3 for help in defining a "worthy" life.)

Read Ephesians 4:2-3

What characterizes a life that is worthy of the calling?

How do these qualities help maintain unity?

Which of these qualities is your strongest/weakest?

LIFEgroup homework

We are commanded to make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit. Why do you think it is so hard for Christians to maintain what God has created?

If you had one piece of advice for Christians, that would cause them to maintain unity, what would it be?

Read Ephesians 4:4-6

We are to be as unified relationally and outwardly as we are inwardly. List the inner unifying elements that make outward unity possible:

How do these seven "ones" help us to maintain authentic unity?

Read Ephesians 4:7-10

Jesus is the conquering hero who is giving gifts to men. What spiritual gifts has He given you? (If you want to study what the Bible says about [spiritual gifts](#), the four other passages with lists include Romans 12, 1 Corinthians 12, and 1 Peter 4)

Read Ephesians 4:11-12

What is the ultimate purpose of these spiritual leaders?

What is God's job description for spiritual leaders?

What is God's job description for everyone else? (what does it look like when we "walk worthy of our calling?")

Pastor Stan helped us to view these spiritual leaders as coaches. Coaches are essential for any team, but they never take a shot or score a touchdown. The job of a coach is to help each player maximize his or her ultimate potential. They teach and equip the players to be winners. What explains your willingness to be equipped by spiritual leaders?

What do you feel God wants you to be equipped to do for Him?

What is your next step? How will you take initiative? What team will you join so you can be coached to serve God?

Memory Verse:

Ephesians 4:1 *As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. NIV*



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