



3D Devotionals

SPORTS—LIFE—TRUTH

Remember! *Integrate* this in during practices. You don't have to wait for a water break to share Jesus and the Bible with the players!

1) Dribbling

Sports- Dribbling looks like smallest thing you do on the field, but it has the biggest impact on your soccer ability.

Life- Often the simple things in life (listen to parents, go to church, do homework) are the most important for you to succeed and develop.

Truth- The simple decision to accept Jesus into your life as Lord and save you from your sin is the biggest decision you can make with your spiritual life. (Romans 10:9-10)

2) Passing

Sports- Passing doesn't sound fun because we don't get to have the ball and try to shoot. But by being unselfish and using our teammates we are a better team.

Life- When we look to help others, we are not only help them through a tough time but we improve our ability to love others as well.

Truth- Jesus set the ultimate example of being unselfish by dying for you. His death gave you the opportunity to spend eternity in Heaven. He showed us how to love each other! (John 13:34, John 15:13)

3) Shooting

Sports- In soccer when you shoot you must aim for the target and kick with the laces of your shoe to get a good shot. If you don't do it right, the shot will not be successful.

Life- You can't succeed in life without doing things the right way. There is a right way to do things and a wrong way. We either obey parents or we don't. We tell the truth or lie.

Truth- The Bible calls wrong things we do "sin". Our sin separates us from a perfect God and prevents us from going to Heaven. (Romans 6:23)

4) Spacing

Sports- You must be in the right position and ready to do your job on the soccer field in order to score goals and play good defense. The goalie doesn't score much and the players don't get to use their hands!

Life- We are all good at certain things and need to recognize that truth. Some are good at math, or more athletic, or like to build things. We can't all do the same job when we grow up.

Truth- The same is true as Christians. When we are saved, God gives us a spiritual gift. Some are good at teaching, or serving, or giving. We each have a role to play as we live for Jesus. (1 Corinthians 12:27)

5) Athleticism/Conditioning

Sports- We don't run just for the sake of running. We run to be better soccer players. As we get in better shape we are able to achieve our team goal to play our best for Christ.

Life- In life we should live with purpose and have a goal to accomplish. We go to school so that we can one day go to a good college, or get a good job.

Truth- God tells us in the Bible to live our lives for the purpose of making the name of Jesus, His life, death, and resurrection, known to others. We must live our lives with an eternal purpose, not one that is temporary. (1 Corinthians 9:24-27)

6) **Goalkeeping**

Sports- Goalies are the only ones who can use their hands. They get to grab the ball and hold it tight to protect it from the other team and prevent them from scoring.

Life-The most important things we hold closest to us. Like the soccer ball when playing goalie, we keep our family and what we value most close.

Truth-The most important thing in our life must be God and our relationship with Him. We can know God by reading the Bible, being active in a church, and having close friends who also love Jesus. (Matthew 22:37-38).

7) **Defense**

Sports- The defense is responsible for marking (guarding) the other team so that they cannot get a good shot on goal. It does not matter how good the offense plays if you do not guard against your opponent.

Life- Our parents/coaches/teachers help guard us against dangers we face every day. They guard us against strangers, or behaving badly at school etc.

Truth- In our spiritual lives we have to be on guard against sin, hold firm to what God says is right and be the same person no matter what you face. (1 Corinthians 16:13-14)

8) **Scrimmage**

Sports- Doing drills is great, but nothing can replace the experience we gain through a scrimmage. The live game makes us take what we have learned in practice and apply it to soccer!

Life- We have to put into practice what we learn in school, from parents, even in soccer. It does us no good to know something in our head, but never actually do it.

Truth- The same is true in our spiritual lives. Just knowing the answers in church or knowing what the Bible says does not make you a Christian. A relationship with Jesus means we not only know what he says about how to live, but that we actually live that out each day. (James 1:22)