

Youth Baseball Devotions 2021

Sports-Life-Truth

Practice #2

Sport: Fielding – Watching professional baseball fielding looks incredibly easy. They just scoop up the ball, throw it where they want, and it looks effortless. How did they get to where it looks effortless? Years of practice and intentionality. They had to be intentional with learning the right way to field a baseball – position yourself in line to catch the ball, bend your knees/lower mid-section down, glove is touching the ground in a “ready position,” arms extended in front of your body, glove facing the hitter and throwing hand above the glove forming the mouth of an alligator, receive the ball with your throwing hand and prep to throw to your target. More to it than what we might think. We must be intentional as we field a ball.

Life: Are there areas in your life when you are intentional? I know when studying for a test I had to be intentional to take time to study, if I didn’t the test score wouldn’t be good. What about with your friends, do you think you would have great friendships if you didn’t take time to know your friends – ask them what they like, don’t like, games they play, food they eat? There are many areas in life where being intentional is important.

Truth: Jesus was intentional as he came to save us from our sin. Jesus said in Luke 19:10 that he “came to seek (you have to be intentional when you’re seeking) and save that which was lost.” Jesus came intentionally, to seek and to save the lost. A hiker can get lost in the woods or maybe you’ve wondered away from your family and couldn’t see them and felt “lost” in that moment. To be “lost,” how Jesus is talking about it, is that without Jesus we are spiritually lost – because of sin we have wandered away from God.

Every human being is either lost or found. We all belong to one of those two categories. The first step in becoming found is to admit that we are lost. We agree with God that our sin deserves punishment, and we acknowledge that the punishment Jesus suffered on the cross was sufficient to pay for it. We humbly receive that gift through faith (Ephesians 2:8–9). In a divine exchange, God transfers our sin to the cross and transfers Christ’s righteousness to our account (Colossians 2:14). We then enter into a new relationship with God as His own beloved children. We are no longer lost. We have been found, forgiven, and given a fresh start.

Pray