

Tips for Christ-centered sports ministry programs

Matt Edwards of the Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club in Wilson, N.C., shared his ideas for how to launch and maintain sports programs with Christ as the central focus.

1. Come up with themes for each month to inspire the kids.
Some examples include “teamwork,” “lead and follow,” and “two ears, one mouth – listen twice as much.”
2. Get coaches involved by having them alternate the relating of a Bible story before each game.
3. For a staff position that coordinates the programs, use the title of Christian activities director rather than athletic director.
4. Use Bible challenges to add to the amount of points scored during practices and games.
Make it “God” 5th Quarter.
5. Start a league first with teens or older youth, men’s clubs or Home League.
“These groups become your quarterbacks to lead other ministers,” said Wilson.

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