



HCYA HURRICANES TRAINING NOTES – JANUARY 13, 2017



“Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ...” Philippians 1:27

At a glance...Tuesday devo

Five year old Murtaza Ahmadi from Afghanistan became a viral sensation when he was photographed wearing a blue and white striped plastic bag – symbolizing the Argentina National Team jersey. On the back, written in black marker, was the name, “Messi” and the number 10. After a year of planning, Murtaza eventually met his idol, walking on the field as a mascot with Messi and his Barcelona team-mates in a friendly in Qatar.



The truth is, we’ve all had heroes – someone we’ve wanted to be “when we grow up”. An athlete, a movie star, a musician, an artist – typically someone who is exceptional at what they do – one with a special talent and qualities that make them stand out from the rest.

So what do we do? We role play. We look at our heroes and try to emulate them: their hairstyles, their demeanor, their clothing, words, mannerisms etc. In other words, we try to “become” like them, and in our world of fantasy, picture ourselves in the limelight, enjoying their stardom and basking in their glory. But what exactly should we be looking for in a hero?

In Philippians 3:17-19, Paul tells believers to follow his example and join with others in imitating his life and his lifestyle. Never considering himself a hero, Paul nonetheless had enough confidence to say: Do as I do. Walk as I walk. The sole reason was not because of any goodness in Paul himself. Rather, his life was so centered on Christ that he offered not a boast, but a rallying call to Godly living. He knew his Savior, and he knew Him well. He had been changed from the inside out – transformed into a powerful witness of the Truth. His leader – his “hero” was Jesus Christ, and there was no greater joy for Paul than praising Him, sharing Him, living for Him and living like Him!



This week’s challenge

How confident would you be to tell others to follow your lead? Are you living so close to Jesus that your words, attitudes and actions represent the One you claim to know? The only way to be a Godly example – an ambassador for Christ – is to spend time with Him in His Word daily, thoroughly, prayerfully and intentionally. Does this describe you?

See you next week!

Jim Spence: Head Coach - HCYA Hurricanes & Founder - Sports Quest

