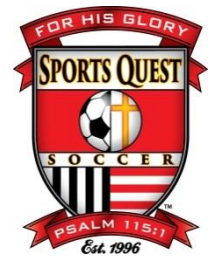




HCYA HURRICANES TRAINING NOTES – JANUARY 6, 2017



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

New Year...The past is gone!

It's been said that “Today is the tomorrow you worried about yesterday!” Life happens. In the the blink of an eye, 2016 became 2017 and before we know it, we'll be reflecting on another 12 months of ups, downs and everything in between.

Was 2016 all you had hoped for? Did you do things which made others proud? Did your actions cause shame or regret? If it were possible, would you reverse circumstances that brought disappointment, pain – a broken heart? If you could revisit and change some of your choices or the choices of others which impacted your life, how would life look different to you now?

It's easy to live in the past; either dwelling on successes or being crippled by failures. In Philippians 3:12-14, Paul exhorts us to “forget what is behind and strain toward what is ahead”. And if anyone ever had reason to follow his own advice, it was Paul. His impressive background and credentials had made him an “expert” in religion. He knew his bible inside out (the Old Testament), and was top of his class for persecuting Christians. In fact, Acts 7:57-58 tells us that when Stephen, the first martyr, was stoned to death for unashamedly talking about Jesus, Paul had held the coats of those who murdered him.

Paul was successful (by the world's standards) but was a miserable failure in the sight of God...until, of course, he met Christ on the road to Damascus! From that moment onwards, his life forever changed. Brought to his knees by the reality of both his sin and his Savior, Paul became a new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17) and his life was never the same.

As 2017 gets under way, press into the future with hope, confidence and resolve. The past is gone and maybe (just maybe), the best is yet to come. Like Paul, make it your goal to “win the prize for which God has called you heavenward in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 3:14) – the goal of becoming more like Christ, and the prize of blessings and rewards in the age to come, in perfect fellowship with Christ for eternity! Write your story for His glory in 2017!

This week's challenges from Philippians 3:12-16

• What do you need to start? • What do you need to quit? • Who do you need to invest in? • How can you best use your time, talent and resources?

See you next week!

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

