



“For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come.”- 1 Timothy 4:8

ANOTHER WET WEEK...BUT NOTHING CAN STOP A HURRICANE!

Our second week of training was conducted in less than perfect playing conditions. Wet fields after all the heavy rains left us wondering if practices should even go ahead! Thankfully, we were able to find enough dry space to work on improving technique, field awareness and in some cases, tactical understanding. A huge shout-out to players and coaches for their flexibility and understanding. Seems like one of our primary Scriptures from last season has taken root, *“Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ” (Philippians 1:27)*. Practices, games and life itself are all unpredictable. We have good days and not so good days. Gladness and sadness. Highs and lows. But we must choose to respond in a way that puts God on display with our attitudes, actions and perspective. The constant challenge for the believer is to remain God honoring whether we find ourselves at the peak of a mountain or in the depths of a valley. Perhaps our devotional theme from the Gospel of John this week hit a nerve with some, maybe more than we think...



DEVOTIONAL THEME: REJECTION

Most of us have felt the pain of rejection at some point in our lives. If not, we most likely will. Maybe a strained relationship has left you deflated and disillusioned, or perhaps a peer group has denied you access to their “inner circle”. To bring it closer to home, you’re disappointed at being “rejected” by a team or a coach you desired to represent this coming season at HCYA Hurricanes. Rejection, whether real or perceived, can be very painful and leave scars if we allow it to. However, rejection doesn’t mean it’s over, but rather provides an opportunity for a new beginning! And if that doesn’t motivate us, let’s shift our focus to Jesus Christ – the Creator of all things, yet rejected during His time on earth, and still rejected today. Though He was perfect, sinless and fulfilled all the Old Testament prophecies, people despised Him and eventually nailed Him to a cross. If anyone knows about rejection, it was Jesus. Imagine the agony He endured as the very people He came to rescue turned their backs on Him, mocking, ridiculing and eventually scourging Him in the process. And yet He endured their rejection because of His love for people. The big question is...How do YOU respond to Jesus? Have you rejected Him as God – believing instead that He was a good man, a great moral teacher, or just a made up, imagined character as a crutch for the weak? Or have you yielded your life to Him, accepting His free gift of forgiveness through faith? Rejection or acceptance: The choice is yours, but if there’s any doubt whatsoever, allow this sobering Scripture, penned by John, to sink in, *“Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God’s wrath remains on him” (John 3:36)*



Looking forward to seeing you next week!

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Sports Quest:
“Sharing biblical truth to reach, teach & encourage next generation leaders through soccer”

“I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.” - Philippians 4:13