



“Discipline yourself for the purpose of Godliness”- 1 Timothy 4:7 (NASB)

HCYA HURRICANES SOCCER – WEEK 13

With just three training sessions and a handful of games remaining in the 2019/20 season, it’s almost time to cross the finish line of our first **DECADE** of HCYA Hurricanes. That’s right. Ten years! This milestone includes hundreds of practices, countless wins, losses and ties, incredible highs and frustrating lows, 6 practice locations, 21 coaches from Sports Quest, thousands of miles on the road, thousands of hours behind the scenes by HCYA’s leadership team and most importantly, close to a thousand young people encouraged and challenged in their faith journey through the sharing of God’s Word at EVERY PRACTICE. While some things are out of our control (weather and field conditions, game cancellations, referee calls, results etc.), the ONE thing we can always return to as reliable, convicting, reassuring and comforting is Scripture. As we’ve told the players many times, what we (coaches) have to say is irrelevant compared to what God says. Hence, our continual focus on the Bible and its absolute truths. We hope and pray that young minds have been “programmed” with an eternal perspective, and that many hearts have been softened and turned towards the things of God rather than the temporal, fleeting desires of this world.



DEVOTIONAL THEME: HUMILITY

As the song goes, “What the world needs now, is love, sweet love”. That’s true, but what the world also needs is “Humility. Sweet humility!” It’s been said that pride makes us artificial and humility makes us real. If that’s the case, then we need to start getting real when it comes to our sense of entitlement – arrogantly believing that we deserve certain privileges. Here’s a list of 15 symptoms of entitlement:



- We feel sorry for ourselves if things don’t work out the way we wanted
- We impose unrealistic demands on others
- People have labelled us “bully”, “manipulative”, “ruthless”, “egotistical”, “vain”, or a “liar”
- We believe we deserve happiness and go to great lengths to ensure that happens
- We punish people when they don’t do what we want either passively (e.g. silent treatment, gossiping, spreading rumors) or aggressively (e.g. shouting, verbally or physically abusing)
- We constantly see other people as competition or “threats”
- We exhibit many double-standards in our behavior/interactions with others (e.g. we can be late and forget our duties and commitments, but you can’t)
- We take more than give in friendships and relationships
- We have a hard time negotiating or compromising
- We think we’re better, or more important than others, and that we should be unquestioningly respected
- We crave admiration and adoration

“Do you wish to rise? Begin by descending. You plan a tower that will pierce the clouds? Lay first the foundation of humility.”
-St. Augustine

So...How did we do? Let’s never be found guilty of saying, “I’m the humblest person I know.” See you next week!

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MEMORY VERSE

“God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble” (James 4:6)