



SEASON TRAINING – WEEK 3

Another action packed week of homeschool soccer as game time quickly approaches! With votes now collected for HCYA Hurricanes Captains, we look forward to Tuesday when we'll announce which players will receive the honor of leading their respective teams over the next few months.

TUESDAY – FOOLISHNESS: OR IS IT? *“For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God” (1 Corinthians 1:18).* When we think about the claims of Christianity, surely the unbeliever has a case for calling our faith foolish, ridiculous, nonsensical, humorous, naïve, far-fetched, illogical, unscientific...to name but a few labels. Jesus Christ – the Son of God? Three Gods or one God in three persons...What?? It's all too mind blowing to believe, right? Wrong! Once we surrender our lives to Christ, the scales are removed from our eyes and we see clearly what was hidden before. We move from darkness into the light, from life to death, and we are set free to be all that God wants us to be. Of course, the doubters and scoffers will still have their day. “You've been brainwashed”, they'll say. They'll defend their position with comments such as “Christianity is a psychological crutch for the weak”, or “show me the proof. I need to see hard evidence. Something that will stand up in court.” The problem is, that many are too narrow minded or set in their ways to even consider the possibility that Jesus is the only way to the Father (John 14:6). And that yes...the case for Christ can be proved beyond a reasonable doubt!



But before we get too defensive and cynical, let's remember our unbelieving roots. Until Jesus entered our hearts and lives, we too were wandering around aimlessly, lost and without hope. That was until Christ became real to and we received the Spirit of God (1 Corinthians 2:12). What was once foolishness suddenly made sense. It was an incredible turn around in our thinking, and perhaps not a little disconcerting to those who knew us best! We became “fools for Christ” (1 Corinthians 4:10) and the “fragrance of Christ” – the aroma of life among those who are being saved, and an aroma of death to those who are perishing (2 Corinthians 2:15-16).



THURSDAY – ENOUGH IS ENOUGH! *“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast” (Ephesians 2:9).* How well do we have to perform to impress God? What criteria do we use to determine our acceptability into heaven? And, when we reach that target, how do we know when or if we somehow fall below the accepted standards? Clearly, this jostling for position – this never-ending quest to hit a (moving) target – is not God's design. The simple fact is this: our Creator has made a way for EVERYONE to go to heaven – no strings attached. No jumping over hurdles or through hoops. No second-guessing as to the requirements or credentials. Record breaking feats are as irrelevant as heart breaking defeats. Social status is of no value in God's economy, and boasting about our merits, goodness and deeds is totally misplaced. Why? Because salvation and heaven are gifts of God! We'll never be good enough, wise enough or strong enough. Instead, Jesus Christ is our “enough”. He is the only One worthy enough of our praise. His payment for our sin is enough to guarantee a relationship with Him for those “in Christ”. Enough said?!



See you on Tuesday!

Jim Spence

Head Coach - HCYA Hurricanes www.HCYASoccer.com

Founder - Sports Quest www.SQSoccer.com / 832.593.7777

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)