

# **SESSION 11:** **BE MOTIVATED TO RUN THE RACE OF FAITH IN SPORT**

 **MATTHEW 25**

## **DISCUSS**

### **WHAT IS IT THAT MOTIVATES YOU TO STAND OUT AS A CHRISTIAN IN SPORT?**

For many of us, we struggle to stand out consistently for Jesus Christ in our sports club. Sometimes we lose sight of the spiritual/eternal implications of knowing Jesus. Being reminded of these motivates us to cross the changing room and encourage others to seek Jesus out, too.

## **BIBLE**

**What you need to know:** This is the last of three parables in Matthew 25 in which Jesus urges those listening to live in light of the eternal realities that face them. There are consequences both for not living for Him, and for living with Him.

### **READ: MATTHEW 25:31-33**

- 1 What is the big idea or key theme of this section?
- 2 Who will stand before the Son of Man?

- 3 How does this coming judgement motivate you as you think about your sports friends?

## SUM UP

As we train and compete it is easy to forget the reality that Jesus is coming again and when He comes it will have implications for ALL people including our sports friends. How we respond to Him now matters.

## BIBLE

**What you need to know:** We are 'righteous' because of faith in Jesus Christ. Our new state as God's adopted children is revealed in how we live it out. This change of identity causes a change of life.

### **READ: MATTHEW 25:34-40**

- 4 What is it that the sheep have to look forward to?
- 5 Does this excite and motivate you?
- 6 Those in Christ see people differently and live differently towards them. How is this shown in these verses?
- 7 Describe what these characteristics show about the sheep.

## SUM UP

Our gratitude for what Jesus has done and our new identity as adopted children motivates us to love those around us, not just in emotions but in action. What does this look like in your sports club?

## BIBLE

**What you need to know:** We are 'righteous' because of faith in Jesus Christ. Our new state as God's adopted children is revealed in how we live it out. This change of identity causes a change of life.

### READ: MATTHEW 25:41-45

- 8 What is it that the goats are facing?
- 9 Does this motivate you to warn those who do not know and live for Jesus? If so, how?
- 10 How would you sum up the characteristics of the goats? What is it that causes them to be like this?
- 11 'Do it for ME' and 'did not do it for ME' are two key phrases from v.40 &45. What do they mean?

## SUM UP

It is hard to accept that our sports friends face a very serious and eternal consequence if they reject Jesus. How does this motivate you to run your race of faith this week?

## WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR US?

The final verse, 46, makes it crystal clear that there are two eternal realities and yet we so easily forget and live our lives as if this isn't true. How can you live in light of these realities this week and encourage each other to do so?

Pray that you will have courage this week to point others to Jesus; thank Him for saving you.