

Friday, March 13

Scripture Reading: Luke 9:25

When my family read this verse, I had one question to ask my girls. Would you rather score 25 points and lose the game, or score just a few points and win? What is the object of the game? What is more important? Scoring or winning?

A player who scores a ton of points but whose team loses the game, is like the man Jesus talked about in the Bible verse.

What do you think it means to “gain the whole world?” The girls came up with money, fame, power, etc. Having these things can be a bit like scoring a lot of points, but losing the game. In the end, they really don’t matter. I also asked the girls, what do you think it means to “lose or forfeit your very self?,” and they said not get into heaven, miss out on God’s plan, and not be all God wants us to be.

Gaining the whole world, having a bunch of money, being famous, being powerful and important, none of that will save you in the end because life is not really about those things, even though it sometimes seems that way. Jesus said the only thing that really matters is having a right relationship with God and putting God first instead of things and self.

In basketball and any other sport you might play, I hope your team will always be more important to you than points or personal glory. Remember, there is no “I” in team. In life, I hope you will put God first, and remember that knowing and following him is more important than anything else. That’s why Jesus said, “What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, and yet lose or forfeit his very self?”

Prayer: Dear Lord, help us to remember when life is over, the only thing that will really matter is having the right relationship with You. Amen

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