



# Christian Leadership in Children's Sports



Lead your children's sports team with faith, building character and reflecting Christ through influence and servant leadership.

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## Introduction

**Leading a children's sports team as a Christian parent** is a unique opportunity to shape young lives through faith and character. In this journey, you are not just coaching a sport; you are mentoring future leaders and followers of Christ. *Every practice and game becomes a platform to reflect God's love and guidance, teaching more than skills but also values that last a lifetime.* 🏆

As a leader in this role, your example sets the tone for the team. Leadership in sports often focuses on winning, but as a Christian parent, your goal transcends the scoreboard. It is about instilling integrity, humility, respect, and perseverance — qualities that mirror Christ's character. Your influence can help children see that their worth is not measured by trophies but by the heart and effort they put forth.

Throughout this 7-day bible study, you will explore biblical principles of leadership that apply directly to coaching and parenting. From servant leadership inspired by Jesus himself, to encouraging teamwork and unity, these reflections will equip you to lead with wisdom and grace. You'll gain insights into handling challenges with patience, motivating young athletes, and nurturing their spiritual growth alongside their physical development.

May this time of study deepen your understanding of godly leadership and inspire you to be a positive, Christ-centered influence on your children and their team. Let's embark on this journey to lead not just with skill, but with faith that transforms lives.





## Day 1: Embrace Servant Leadership



Day 1:  Embrace Servant Leadership

## Your Verse

*Mark 10:45 – "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."*

## Supporting Scriptures

- *John 13:14 – "Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet."*
- *Philippians 2:3 – "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves."*



Day 1:  Embrace Servant Leadership

## Devotional: Lead by Serving Like Christ

**Servant leadership** is the heart of Christian leadership. Jesus, our ultimate example, chose to serve rather than be served. As a parent leading your child's sports team, adopting this mindset means putting the needs and development of the children before winning or recognition. It's about showing humility, patience, and love in every interaction, encouraging rather than demanding.

Coaching is more than teaching techniques; it's about building character. When you serve your team by listening, instructing with care, and putting their growth first, you reflect Jesus' leadership. This approach creates an environment where children feel valued and motivated to grow, on and off the field.

*How might embracing servant leadership change the way you interact with your team? Could it transform your influence into a lasting testimony of Christ's love?*



## Reflect and Apply

1. In what ways can you put your team's needs above your own ambitions?

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2. How does Jesus' example of washing feet inspire your leadership style?

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3. What challenges might you face in serving rather than controlling?

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# Journaling Prompts

1. List specific actions you can take to serve your team this week.

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2. Reflect on a time when servant leadership positively impacted you.

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3. Write a prayer asking God to help you lead with humility.

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## Day 1: 🛡️ Embrace Servant Leadership

## Prayer for Today

**Lord, thank You for the perfect example of servant leadership in Jesus. Help me to lead this team with a servant's heart, putting the needs and growth of each child above my own ambitions. Teach me patience, humility, and genuine care so that my leadership reflects Your love.**

*Enable me to be a light and a source of encouragement in every practice and game. Guide my words and actions so they build up rather than tear down. May the children see Your character through me.*

In Jesus' name, amen. 🙏 ⚽ 🏀





## Day 2: Cultivate Team Unity



## Day 2: 🧡 Cultivate Team Unity

## Your Verse

*Psalm 133:1 - "How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!"*

## Supporting Scriptures

- *Ecclesiastes 4:9 - "Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor."*
- *1 Corinthians 12:12 - "Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ."*



## Day 2: 🧡 Cultivate Team Unity

## Devotional: Build a Unified, Supportive Team

**Unity is essential in any team**, especially when leading children in sports. God calls His people to live in harmony, reflecting His love and peace. As a leader, you play a vital role in fostering this unity by encouraging respect, cooperation, and shared goals.

Each child brings unique gifts and abilities, just like parts of the body described in 1 Corinthians. Teaching the team to value every player, regardless of skill, helps build mutual respect and eliminates division. Unity also fosters a supportive atmosphere where players cheer each other on and persevere together through challenges.

*Pray and seek ways to model this unity daily. How can you encourage inclusiveness and empathy so every child feels valued as part of the team?*



Day 2: 🧡 Cultivate Team Unity

# Reflect and Apply

1. How do you currently promote unity within your team?

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2. What steps can you take to help children value each other's contributions?

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3. Why is unity especially important in children's sports?

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Day 2: 🧡 Cultivate Team Unity

# Journaling Prompts

1. Describe what a united team looks like to you.

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2. Write about a time you experienced strong unity and how it felt.

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3. Plan one specific activity that encourages team bonding this week.

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## Day 2: 🧡 Cultivate Team Unity

# Prayer for Today

**Heavenly Father, thank You for the gift of unity.** Help me to cultivate a team environment where every child feels accepted and valued. Teach me to encourage cooperation and respect among players so that they work together as one body.

*Let our team reflect Your harmony and love, growing stronger through every challenge and victory.*

In Jesus' name I pray, amen. 🙏🏻 🏆 😊



## Day 3: Lead with Integrity



## Day 3: 🏆 Lead with Integrity

## Your Verse

*Proverbs 11:3 - "The integrity of the upright guides them, but the unfaithful are destroyed by their duplicity."*

## Supporting Scriptures

- *Psalm 25:21 - "May integrity and uprightness protect me, because my hope, Lord, is in you."*
- *2 Timothy 2:15 - "Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth."*



Day 3: 🏆 Lead with Integrity

## Devotional: Be a Role Model of Integrity

**Integrity is the foundation** of godly leadership. When leading your child's sports team, your actions and decisions must be transparent and consistent with biblical values. Children watch carefully and learn not just from what you say, but how you behave.

Exercising integrity means fair treatment, honesty, and being a trustworthy example regardless of external pressures like winning or popularity. It impacts how children value truth and fairness in their own lives and can build a team culture where trust and respect reign.

*Ask God to help you lead by example, maintaining integrity even in difficult moments on the field or sidelines.*



## Reflect and Apply

1. How can you demonstrate integrity in your coaching and interactions?

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2. Why might integrity be challenged in youth sports, and how will you respond?

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3. How does leading with integrity impact the children's spiritual growth?

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Day 3:  Lead with Integrity

# Journaling Prompts

1. Identify areas where you want to grow in integrity as a leader.

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2. Reflect on how your integrity influences the team culture.

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3. Write a commitment statement to uphold honesty and fairness.

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Day 3: 🏛️ Lead with Integrity

## Prayer for Today

**Lord, thank You for Your guidance toward integrity.** Equip me to lead this team with honesty, fairness, and uprightness. Let my actions reflect Your truth, and help me to be a consistent example that others can trust and follow.

*Guard my heart against shortcuts or dishonesty, and strengthen me to stand firm in Your ways.*

In Jesus' name, amen. 🙏🕊️⚖️





## Day 4: Inspire Passion and Perseverance



Day 4: 🔥 Inspire Passion and Perseverance

## Your Verse

*Galatians 6:9 - "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."*

## Supporting Scriptures

- *Colossians 3:23 - "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters."*
- *2 Timothy 4:7 - "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith."*



## Day 4: 🔥 Inspire Passion and Perseverance

## Devotional: Encourage Endurance Through Faith

**Leading a children's sports team requires inspiring passion and perseverance.** You have an amazing opportunity to teach children what it means to commit wholeheartedly, push through challenges, and celebrate effort over outcome. This mirrors the Christian life—persisting in faith and good works even when results aren't immediate.

Encourage your team to give their best effort every time, reminding them that their value isn't tied solely to wins but to the heart and spirit they bring. Share stories of biblical heroes who endured hardships with faith and determination. Help the children learn that perseverance strengthens character and deepens reliance on God.

*Reflect on how your attitude influences their passion and resilience. How can you model endurance rooted in faith?*



## Reflect and Apply

1. How do you currently motivate kids to persevere?

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2. What biblical examples of endurance encourage you in leadership?

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3. How can passion for the sport reflect a deeper passion for God's purposes?

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Day 4: 🔥 Inspire Passion and Perseverance

## Journaling Prompts

1. Write about a challenge you overcame with perseverance and faith.

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2. List ways you can practically inspire the team to keep going.

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3. Craft a motivational message from Scripture to share with your team.

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Day 4: 🔥 Inspire Passion and Perseverance

## Prayer for Today

**Father, thank You for teaching us to never give up.** Strengthen my heart and the hearts of these children to persevere through challenges with faith and joy. Help us to work wholeheartedly as if serving You, not just for trophies or applause.

*Fill us with passion and endurance that honors You in every game and practice.*

In Jesus' powerful name, amen. 🙏🔥🏃





## Day 5: ✨ Reflect Christ's Character



Day 5: ✨ Reflect Christ's Character

## Your Verse

*2 Corinthians 3:18 – "And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit."*

## Supporting Scriptures

- *Ephesians 4:32 – "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."*
- *Galatians 5:22-23 – "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control."*



Day 5: ✨ Reflect Christ's Character

## Devotional: Lead by Christlike Example

**Children learn more by watching than listening.** As a Christian coach and parent, one of your highest callings is reflecting Christ's character to the team. This means embodying kindness, patience, forgiveness, and self-control in how you treat each child and handle every situation.

Reflecting Christ transforms the team environment from competition to community, where players feel loved and respected. Your words and actions become a living sermon that points children to the love and grace of God. Even in moments of frustration or loss, maintaining a Christlike attitude teaches powerful lessons beyond sport.

*Ask the Spirit to reveal areas where you can grow in displaying Christ's fruit and seek daily to live these out in your leadership.*



Day 5: ✨ Reflect Christ's Character

## Reflect and Apply

1. What aspects of Christ's character do you want to exemplify most?

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2. How can reflecting Christ's fruit affect your team's atmosphere?

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3. When is it hardest for you to show Christlike qualities, and why?

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Day 5: ✨ Reflect Christ's Character

## Journaling Prompts

1. Identify ways you currently display Christ's character in leadership.

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2. Write about a moment you saw Christ reflected in a child or teammate.

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3. Pray for growth in one specific fruit of the Spirit each day.

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Day 5: ✨ Reflect Christ's Character

## Prayer for Today

**Lord Jesus, thank You for Your perfect example.** Help me to mirror Your character in every interaction with this team. Fill me with Your Spirit so I can show kindness, patience, and self-control—even when it's challenging.

*Let my leadership be a reflection of Your love that draws others closer to You.*

In Your holy name, amen. 🌿 ❤️ 🙏



## Day 6: Communicate with Encouragement



## Your Verse

*Ephesians 4:29 - "Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs."*

## Supporting Scriptures

- *Proverbs 16:24 - "Gracious words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones."*
- *Colossians 3:16 - "Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom."*



## Devotional: Speak Life and Encouragement

**Words have incredible power.** As a leader, your communication can build up or tear down. The Bible encourages us to speak only words that uplift and encourage, meeting the needs of those we lead.

On the sidelines or at practice, focus on offering positive, constructive feedback that motivates rather than discourages. Praise effort, highlight progress, and gently guide improvement with grace. Remember that encouragement fosters confidence and a love for the sport, while criticism can hinder growth and joy.

*Pray for wisdom to choose your words carefully and to speak life into the children you guide.*



## Reflect and Apply

1. How often do you consciously choose encouraging words in coaching?

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2. What is the impact of your words on children's confidence and character?

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3. How can you improve communication to build up your team?

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# Journaling Prompts

1. Write down examples of encouraging phrases you will use.

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2. Reflect on moments when encouraging words helped you.

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3. Plan ways to communicate constructively during tough situations.

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Day 6:  Communicate with Encouragement

## Prayer for Today

**Father, thank You for the gift of words.** Teach me to communicate with kindness and encouragement, shaping hearts and minds through positive speech. Guard my tongue from negativity and help me to build up every child with grace and truth.

*May my words bring healing, motivation, and joy to the team.*

In Jesus' name, amen.   





## Day 7: Nurture Lasting Character



## Your Verse

*Matthew 5:16 - "In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."*

## Supporting Scriptures

- *Joshua 1:9 - "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."*
- *Psalms 119:105 - "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."*



Day 7: 🌱 Nurture Lasting Character

## Devotional: Lead to Build Lasting Character

**Your leadership impacts more than just the season's games.** It plants seeds of character that can grow for a lifetime. Nurturing virtues like courage, honesty, and kindness helps children develop into adults who glorify God through their lives.

Encourage these young athletes to let their light shine in every area—sports, school, and relationships. Remind them that true victory comes through reflecting Christ's goodness and courage in everyday challenges. As their leader, your faithful example and consistent guidance create a fertile ground for lasting spiritual growth.

*Pray regularly for each child's journey beyond the field, trusting God to multiply your efforts.*



## Reflect and Apply

1. What lasting character qualities do you want to nurture in your team?

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2. How can you inspire children to shine God's light beyond sports?

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3. How does your leadership plant seeds for their lifelong faith journey?

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Day 7: 🌱 Nurture Lasting Character

## Journaling Prompts

1. Describe the kind of person you hope a child on your team becomes.

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2. List spiritual habits you can encourage alongside sports training.

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3. Write a prayer for the long-term impact of your leadership.

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## Day 7: 🌱 Nurture Lasting Character

## Prayer for Today

**Lord, thank You for allowing me to nurture lasting character in these children. Help me to guide them toward shining Your light in every part of their lives. Give me strength to lead with purpose, knowing You work through my efforts to grow resilient, faithful hearts.**

*May the virtues planted today flourish into lifelong testimonies of Your grace.*

In Jesus' name, amen. ✨🌿🙏





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