

**“You’ve Been Drafted”**  
**On This Team Everyone Plays Week #0**  
**Message Outline – September 4, 2011**

**2 Corinthians 5:16-21**

From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. <sup>17</sup> So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! <sup>18</sup> All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; <sup>19</sup> that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. <sup>20</sup> So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup> For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

- 1. When anyone says yes to Jesus they are on God’s team.**
  
- 2. The implications of being drafted. (Themes of the campaign)**
  - a. You must know the goal. (The end zone)**
  
  - b. Your biggest fan is God.**
  
  - c. You must train for the game.**
  
  - d. You must play your position.**
  
  - e. Wherever you are, that is your playing field.**
  
  - f. Everyone can carry the equipment.**
  
  - g. You need to huddle with others.**
  
  - h. Maybe you are a leader.**
  
  - i. God deserves 100% effort. (Play to win)**

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#### **Sermon Reflection Questions:**

This week is our introductory week to our all-church campaign where we look at the life of the church as being a part of God’s team. This sermon and questions are designed to give you an overview of the campaign so that you can be prepared to be a part of what God wants to do in you and through you as a result of this campaign.

1. Do you watch or follow sports? If so, which ones? Are there any particular teams that you care more about than others? Who are some of the biggest sports fans that you know of and how do you see their sports enthusiasm?
2. In what ways do you think the church is like a sports team? All analogies have limitations so, in what ways is a church not like a sports team?
3. In our main passage for this message, 2 Corinthians 5:16-21, verse 16 says that we don’t regard anyone (who is a Christian) according to the flesh. What does it mean to regard someone in the flesh? What does it mean not to regard someone in the flesh? Why are we to no longer regard according to the flesh? What are the implications of this statement when we think about all being on the same team?
4. Paul makes a powerful statement in verse 17. He says, “If anyone is in Christ they are a new creation, the old has gone the new has come.” What does it mean that the old has gone and the new has come? How does an understanding of the truth in verse 17 help us to follow the command of verse 16 and no longer regard anyone according to the flesh?
5. In I Corinthians 12 Paul talks about how we are all part of the body of Christ. In verses 14-20 Paul gives an example of how the foot says to itself, “because I am not a hand I don’t belong to the body”. What are the ways in which we engage in negative self-talk and therefore minimize our importance on God’s team? In those same verses how are we to think about ourselves to change that negative mindset?
6. In I Corinthians 12:21-24 Paul says the eye can’t say to the hand “I have no need of you.” In what ways do we sometimes minimize the value of others?
7. Paul in 2 Corinthians 5:16-21 tells us that God is at work in Christ reconciling the world to Himself. What does that mean? We are also told that He has entrusted us with the ministry of reconciliation. What does that mean? How can we better carry out the ministry of reconciliation as a team rather than as individuals?
8. In the message we gave a brief overview of the 9 weeks of the campaign which will focus on different aspects of being a part of God’s team. From your understanding so far of these characteristics which lesson(s) do you think you most need to hear? Which one(s) might you already have a good understanding?