

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Pastor Brandon Barber | Faithful
Game Day

Main Idea

When you are living in the spirit the world and heaven take notice. As you walk faithful, the fruit of the spirit will be produced in your life. We should never give up on God because He never gives up on us. The evidence in the believer's life is to be faithful.

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Galatians 5:22-23 (ESV)

FAITHFULNESS PUTS YOU ON THE DRAFT BOARD.

“Therefore, of these men who have accompanied us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John to that day when He was taken up from us, one of these must become a witness with us of His resurrection.” Acts 1:21-22 (NKJV)

Professional athletes get drafted because of their faithful dedication to show up day in and day out. Just like Matthias, they got noticed because of their faithfulness. What are you doing to get the attention of heaven?

CHOOSE TO LIVE HIGHER.

“The Lord will make you like the head and not like the tail; you will be on top and not on bottom. But you must obey the commands of the Lord your God that I am giving you today, being careful to keep them.” Deuteronomy 28:13 (NCV)

If you don't know the playbook you won't be playing on Sunday. The playbook sets the standards and if we don't handle our "it", it will handle us. Are there people, things, or places that you need to say "bye" to in order to run the play successfully?

STIR IT UP.

"When I call to remembrance the genuine faith that is in you, which dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am persuaded is in you also. Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands. For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind." 2 Timothy 1:5-7 (NKJV)

Sometimes you have to call a timeout in order to remember and stir up your faith. No matter how big the thing is coming at you, it's not too big for the faith that's in you. Do you need a time out? What are you doing to stir your faith?

HEAVEN IS THE END GAME.

"The wall of the city had twelve foundation stones, and on them were written the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb." Revelation 21:14 (NLT)

Matthias was faithful and became one of the foundation stones of heaven. What do you want your faith legacy to be? How will you prove faithful?

Summary

We are all in this game of life but in order to be successful and win we must be faithful. As we live faithfully for God, the fruit of His Spirit will be produced and all of Heaven will take notice. When faith and faithfulness run together they unlock the miraculous in your life.

Call To Action

A goal without a plan is just a wish. A goal with a plan produces results. Day-to-day decisions define destinies. Let's continue to allow the Holy Spirit to change the way we walk, talk, and act by considering these calls to action this week.

1. Make a list of the fruit of the Spirit and jot down how they are evident in your life.
2. Pastor Brandon spoke to us as a coach today. Who are others in your life that are helping coach you in your game of life? If you don't yet have someone coaching you, who can you ask? What would that look like?
3. What better way to get into the game than by growing and serving with others. Consider serving on our DREAM TEAM or LEADING or JOINING a Connect Group.
4. Next week is our Dream Team Rally hosted at the West Houston Campus, 6PM (5pm food trucks and fun).

Group Leader Resource

Game: Super Bowl Icebreaker Questions

In the spirit of Game Day and the Super Bowl, here are some questions to get your group talking and getting to know one another more. Tip: Don't just settle for a simple answer. Ask them to explain the "why" behind their answers.

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| Favorite football team | - Favorite Super Bowl you've seen |
| Favorite player of all time | - Have you ever been to a pro game? |
| Favorite Super Bowl commercial | - Favorite thing about HC Game Day |
| Did you watch the Super Bowl? | - Big take-away from today's message |
- If you could be on any Hope City Dream Team, which would you choose.