



Developing Winners: Live Zoom Chapel

What could you accomplish if you went ALL IN for your athletics but also your faith? As athletes who are competing at the top levels and training to become the best, we need to have a mindset and determination to go above and beyond what our competitors are willing to do. We have to push ourselves to new heights. God desires that we commit wholeheartedly to Him as well. Deuteronomy 6:4-6 says, *“Listen, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. And you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your strength. And you must commit yourselves wholeheartedly to these commands that I am giving you today.”* Our faith needs to be something that we commit to.

Let’s look at a few ways to be ALL IN with an acrostic in honor of my Coach Rohr.

Always Keep Moving Forward: In sports and in life we need to be able to move past setbacks and continually move forward, improve, and excel. We must take action and must always be progressing, building upon success and learning from failure. *“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.”* (Colossians 3:23-24)

Lead by Example: Leaders always go first! Being a leader means you have the strength to do the right thing at all times, and to teach others to do the same. We can lead by example in how we show up for workouts, practice and team activities. We can lead in our faith by studying scripture, getting involved in church and living out our faith through our actions, not just words. *“But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was.”* (James 1:22-24) Let’s Walk the Talk as leaders.

Legacy that Lasts: Why do we remember the great athletes like Michael Jordan, Tom Brady and Serena Williams? Is it because of the championships they won? Or is it because of the impact they had on their sport, the fans, their teammates and everyone who watched them excel at what they loved? What set these individuals apart as the GOATS? They were willing to be ALL IN. God wants us to have a legacy as well, but God’s legacy is eternal. Championships fade, records are broken, but God has an eternal crown of righteousness for us. 1 Corinthians 9:24-27 states, *“Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever.”* What legacy do you want to leave?

Invite God to be Part of your Performance: God created us and desires us to use our God-given talents and abilities to the fullest. God wants us to include Him in all aspects of our lives. Allow Him to lift and inspire you on and off the playing field. Ephesians 2:10 states, *“For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works.”*



Not Entitled but Earned: Many people demand everything based solely on what they think they're entitled to. But to truly go far in life, realize you're not owed anything, and if you want something, work unbelievably hard for it. As athletes we work hard to earn the starting spot, the college scholarship, the NIL deal. Make sure we continue to have a humble attitude and give the Glory back to God. Go out each day and earn your spot. In our faith, we are also not entitled to anything, in fact we are deserving of death. *"For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."* (Romans 6:23) Thankfully Christ earned our salvation on the cross. Let's make sure we are grateful for that sacrifice and continue to work hard for all we want to achieve.

Larry Bird once said, "if we give 100% all the time, somehow things will work out in the end." We want to continue to pursue excellence and give 100% in sports and life. Let's be ALL IN!