

2023 Jr. RBI Spiritual Development Curriculum: Week 4

Theme for the Year: What is LOVE?

Verse for the Year: “Love is patient. Love is kind. It does not want what belongs to others. It does not brag. It is not proud. It does not dishonor other people. It does not look out for its own interests. It does not easily become angry. It does not keep track of other people’s wrongs.” 1 Corinthians 13:4-5 NIRV

Weekly “Love Challenge”: *Love doesn’t brag.*

This week, our challenge is to show love *by not bragging*. Now this is one that can be really hard, especially when we’re playing a sport like this. It can be so easy to want to brag to the losing team after a win, or brag to another teammate after a big hit or play in the field. When we boast and talk about our accomplishments like this, we are thinking about ourselves and how we are better. Instead, we should avoid doing this and love others *by putting them and their accomplishments first*. In Matthew 20:16, Jesus told his followers that in God’s Kingdom, it’s the last who will be first and the first who will be last. So let’s all try to live as children of God by putting others first this week. Whether cheering on a teammate for making a good play or high-fiving the other team for a good game (*even if we won*), let’s put others in the spotlight. When we do this, we are showing them God’s love; a love that will have our Father bragging proudly about us in heaven! Okay, let’s pray.

Weekly Prayer Prompt:

God, we thank you that all we have and accomplish is because of you and your son Jesus. As we continue through this season as a team, help us all to be humble in our wins and our losses. Help us to celebrate the success of others instead of bragging

about ourselves. Together, let's put others first and ourselves last. May God's love shine through us and onto the goodness and beauty in each and every person created in his image. Thank you for the greatest accomplishment in history, when your son Jesus died and rose again for us. May he always be first in our hearts. In Jesus' name, AMEN.

(These prayer prompts are for your reference but feel free to make prayer your own. We just want to ensure that we are speaking God's love and truth over our players every week.)