



FELLOWSHIP OF
CHRISTIAN
ATHLETES

Northwest Louisiana FCA

8-Week Huddle Meeting Discussion Guide

“And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.”

Colossians 3:17

8-Week Huddle Meeting Discussion Guide

Week 1. GOD IS ALL IN

Week 2. THE WORLD IS ALL IN

Week 3. JESUS IS ALL IN

Week 4. I'M ALL IN

Week 5. EXCELLENCE

Week 6. PERSEVERANCE

Week 7. HUMILITY

Week 8. TEAMWORK

APPENDIX

LOCAL STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

Introduction:

Teams experience the best of sport when the whole team is “All In.” They are one and all fully committed to the team’s goals, to its coaching staff, and to each other. They are “All In” when they hold nothing in reserve and make sacrifices for the team. What would it look like for God to be “All In?”

Application:

1. Tell about a team with which you competed that had an “All In” attitude.
2. How did that team’s coaches and players demonstrate their commitment?
3. How would you rate this team’s level of “All In” commitment on a 1-10 scale? (1 = shallow and selfish; 10 = All In)
4. How would God prove that He’s “All In” with those He loves?

Bridge:

Romans 5:8 says, “But God proves His own love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us!”

1. Why is it important that God proved His love for us while we were still rebellious toward Him?
2. Why is Jesus the ultimate proof of God’s love for us?

Connection:

1. When did you first realize the love of God through Jesus’ death for you?
2. How does Jesus’ sacrifice convince you of God’s love and commitment to you?
3. How can you similarly demonstrate your “All In” commitment to your teammates?
4. What might it cost you to be “All In” with your teammates?
5. Are you willing to pay the price for such love and commitment?

Discovery:

1. God’s example of “All In” commitment through Jesus is a powerful model for us.
2. Let’s each commit ourselves to Jesus and receive His love and power to follow Him, to love our teammates, and to be “All In” with God for all of life.
3. Let’s follow Jesus’ example and pay the price of love and commitment.

Close:

Memory Verse: “But God proves His own love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us!” (Romans 5:8)

Bible Reference:

Romans 5:8

Introduction:

You probably think your team is “All In” and that sets you up for consistent success. Is it possible that your opponents can match your commitment and are similarly “All In” with their teammates? In a similar way to God being “All In” for us, the world goes “All In” to keep us from Him.

Application:

1. How does having a strongly committed opponent challenge your team when you compete?
2. How does your team react when they recognize an “All In” commitment level from its opponents during a competition?

Bridge:

1 John 2:15-17 teaches, “Do not love the world or the things that belong to the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in him. For everything that belongs to the world – the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride in one’s lifestyle – is not from the Father, but is from the world. And the world with its lust is passing away, but the one who does God’s will remains forever.”

What are the three tools listed here that the world uses to distract people from their love for God?

Connection:

1. The world goes “All In” by distracting us through “the lust of the flesh” – strong desires you feel deeply. What strong passions draw sportspeople away from God?
2. The world goes “All In” through “the lust of the eyes” – strong desires for what you want to have. What are the things that you and your teammates want so badly that they could wreck your life in Christ?
3. The world goes “All In” through “the pride in one’s lifestyle” – an arrogant attitude that takes pride in its possessions. What gifts and privileges do sportspeople have that can lead to this attitude?

Discovery:

What things can we do daily that will help our teammates battle against these three enemies of our souls:

1. The lust of the flesh?
2. The lust of the eyes?
3. The pride in one’s lifestyle?

Close:

Memory Verse: “But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no plans to satisfy the fleshly desires.” Romans 13:14

Bible Reference:

1 John 2:15-17
Romans 13:14

Introduction:

Think about a time when someone on your team made a personal sacrifice to help the team succeed. How did you respond when your team captain, the team's best player, or your coach demonstrated unusual commitment and an "All In" attitude? Were you aware of the costs associated with their commitment to the team?

Application:

1. Tell about a moment this week when someone from your team demonstrated that he or she was "All In."
2. What did it cost that person to commit so deeply to the team?

Bridge:

Luke 22:41-42 says, "Then He (Jesus) withdrew from them about a stone's throw, knelt down, and began to pray, 'Father, if You are willing, take this cup away from Me – nevertheless, not My will, but Yours be done.'" This happened in the Garden of Gethsemane the night Jesus was betrayed, less than twenty-four hours before He was crucified

1. What do you suppose He was feeling as He prayed?
2. What was the cup that Jesus asked God to take away from Him?
3. Why would Jesus prefer to do His Father's will over doing what was safer for Him?

Connection:

1. When does being a good teammate require a sportsperson to go "All In" and sacrifice for his or her team?
2. What is the cup of self-sacrifice that you may have to drink to help your team be its best?
3. When might your will be in conflict with God's will for your life in sport?

Discovery:

1. Follow Jesus' example and go "All In" for your teammates.
2. Trust God's goodness and wisdom as you choose His will over yours.
3. Pay the price to help your team achieve its goals.

Close:

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

Bible Reference:

Luke 22:41-42

Mark 10:45

Introduction:

When a team is made up of individuals who each adopt an "All In" mentality, its chances of success are greatly enhanced. Their commitment to and love for their teammates makes for an atmosphere that leads to optimum athletic performance.

Application:

1. What could it cost you personally to go "All In" for your team?
2. Which of your personal goals may have to die for your team's goals to be achieved?
3. How does one acquire the courage to make such a choice?

Bridge:

Galatians 2:19-20 says, "...I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me."

1. What does it mean that we who believe in Jesus have been crucified with Him?
2. How does His life, now being lived in me, change the way that I live?

Connection:

1. What parts of your life need to be crucified in order for Jesus' life to be lived in you?
2. How will you exercise your life of faith in Christ as you compete this week?
3. How can you go "All In" for your teammates and thereby demonstrate sacrificial love for them?

Discovery:

1. Take the risks to crucify anything in your life that compromises your life in Christ.
2. Trust Jesus to live His life in you as you exercise your faith in Him.
3. Thank God for His love and sacrifice for you through Jesus' life, death, and resurrection.

Close:

Memory Verse: "...I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me."
Galatians 2:19-20

Bible Reference:

Galatians 2:19-20

Introduction:

As a competitor, you probably want to be THE best or at least YOUR best. The spirit behind that desire is the pursuit of excellence. The challenge is that excellence doesn't always come naturally or easily. It requires a working commitment to discipline and a gracious humility to be coached. That can be a challenging duo to maintain each day.

Application:

1. Tell about a person or situation that exemplified excellence in the athletic arena?
2. Can a drive for excellence ever be negative instead of positive? Why or Why not?
3. When have you come closest to striving for excellence? What can you do to better strive for excellence?

Bridge:

What does the Bible say about wanting to be YOUR best, or THE best? Is that ok? Colossians 3:23-24 says, "Whatever you do, do it enthusiastically, as something done for the Lord and not for men, knowing that you will receive the reward of an inheritance from the Lord. You serve the Lord Christ."

5. Why does "do it enthusiastically, as something done for the Lord" require disciple and teachability?
6. How have you seen (or hope to see) a teammate commit to excellence this season?

Connection:

3. How can we develop a working commitment to discipline?
4. How can we develop a gracious humility that is coachable?
5. How can we develop a culture of excellence in our team and constructively demand it of each other?

Discovery:

Take a few moments to honestly assess yourself and ask for input from teammates.

6. How can I grow in commitment to discipline?
7. How can I grow in teachability?

Because excellence can become a habit, consider how to remind yourself daily to commit to discipline. You could place scripture (Colossians 3:23-24, Philippians 3:13-15, I Corinthians 15:58) in your locker, on your shoes, on the background of your phone, etc.

Close:

Memory Verse: "Whatever you do, do it enthusiastically, as something done for the Lord and not for men, knowing that you will receive the reward of an inheritance from the Lord. You serve the Lord Christ." Colossians 3:23-24

Bible Reference:

Colossians 3:23-24
Philippians 3:13-15
I Corinthians 15:58

Introduction:

The sports world has a gigantic library of stories about players and teams that persevered through losing streaks, injuries, illness, or other difficulties to become champions. You have probably seen some of them in movies or read about them. You may have even lived through one such story. You may be in the middle of one today.

Application:

1. What is the most difficult part of your life in sport to endure? Is it the long bus trips? Is it the sore muscles or the pain of rehabbing an injury?
2. What is the final outcome of persevering through these trying times, and what benefit could possibly come from such painful, hard work?

Bridge:

James 1:2-4 says, "Consider it a great joy, my brothers, whenever you experience various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. But endurance must do its complete work, so that you may be mature and complete, lacking nothing."

1. What sorts of trials test people's faith?
2. Who has been a model to you of enduring trials and becoming mature and complete?

Connection:

1. What trials come along with your sporting life that test your faith?
2. How does that testing process result in endurance?
3. How are we more complete competitors because of having been tried, having endured, and becoming more mature?

Discovery:

Various trials produce patience or endurance in our lives. Just like conditioning produces endurance in our bodies, trials and tough times produce patience in our souls and endurance in our character. When we push through tough times, like losing streaks, injuries and bench-sitting, we find that we are more complete and better able to deal with life's bigger issues. We're catching onto this idea well when we see the trial coming and can welcome it as a friend, rather than cursing it as an enemy.

Close:

Memory Verse: "Consider it a great joy, my brothers, whenever you experience various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. But endurance must do its complete work, so that you may be mature and complete, lacking nothing." James 1:2-4

Bible Reference:

James 1:2-4

Introduction:

Have you ever seen a last place team jump up and beat the previously undefeated, first place squad? How could that happen? Many times we see a team strut onto the field or floor, exalting themselves and believing they are invincible. How quickly they can fall, often to teams with inferior talent. Other teams have an honest estimate of their strengths and weaknesses. They approach the game with respect for their opponents and a quiet confidence in their teammates and coaches.

Application:

1. Tell about a time when you saw a team that seemed to be overmatched by a superior opponent, rise up and defeat an obviously more skilled squad.
2. Why does this happen to some teams?
3. What does your team do to avoid such situations?

Bridge:

In Matthew 23:12, Jesus is recorded as saying, "Whoever exalts himself will be humbled and whoever humbles himself will be exalted."

Connection:

1. What would it look like for someone to exalt or lift himself up?
2. Why would he or she be humbled and by whom?
3. When have you seen someone humble himself and then be lifted up by others? Tell us about it.
4. How could a team act with humility toward its opponents and thereby be in position to be lifted up?

Discovery:

1. In today's competition, have an attitude of quiet confidence.
2. Be fully aware of your team's strengths and weaknesses.
3. Have an honest estimate of your abilities and a healthy respect for your opponents.
4. If you will humble yourselves, it's God's job to exalt you and lift you up at the appropriate time.

Close:

Memory Verse: "...and all of you clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because God resists the proud but gives grace to the humble." | Peter 5:5

Bible Reference:

Matthew 23:12

1 Peter 5:5

Introduction:

I owe much of my athletic success to a number of people that elevated my game so I call them “elevators.” At 12 years old I decided that one of my goals was to play professional baseball. God knew I wouldn’t make it alone, so he gave me a big brother that was bigger, stronger, faster, smarter, better than me in everything. He was one of my biggest elevators.

My second elevator was my college best friend who loved baseball and Jesus. He would challenge me to work harder and walk closer to Jesus. Together we would work out no matter what the conditions, and pray that God would lead us as competitors.

Application:

1. Think about the people in your life – are any of them elevators?
2. How about you, for whom are you an elevator?
3. Take steps, today, to get some elevators in your life.

Bridge:

Mark 2:3-4 tells the story of a paralytic man: “Then they came to Him bringing a paralytic, carried by four men. Since they were not able to bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, they removed the roof above where He was. And when they had broken through, they lowered the mat on which the paralytic was lying.” The paralyzed man was totally dependent on his buddies – his elevators. They were described as men of faith that were not going to be denied.

Connection:

1. When have you seen someone be an “elevator” for someone else in sports? How did that influence help push the athlete to another level of play?
2. Ask the Lord to send some “elevators” your way, and to help you become an elevator for others.

Discovery:

Elevators aren’t drafted or happen to show-up in your life, they are people you choose to engage with. They are teammates who encourage you, that make you stronger and better. Who can you pursue to have as an “elevator” in your life?

Close:

Memory Verse: “Therefore encourage one another and build each other up as you are already doing.” | 1 Thessalonians 5:11

Bible Reference:

Mark 2:3-4

1 Thessalonians 5:11

FCA Today

FCA is touching millions of lives...one heart at a time. Since 1954, FCA has been challenging coaches and athletes on the professional, college, high school, junior high, and youth levels to use the powerful medium of athletics to impact the world for Jesus Christ. FCA is the largest Christian sports organization in the world. FCA focuses on serving local communities by equipping, empowering, and encouraging people to make a difference for Christ through our Four C's of Ministry: Coaches, Campus, Camp, and Community.

FCA Vision: To see the world impacted for Jesus Christ through the influence of coaches and athletes.

FCA Mission: To present to coaches and athletes, and all whom they influence, the challenge and adventure of receiving Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, serving Him in their relationships and in the fellowship of the church.

You can find out more about what is currently happening in FCA by checking out FCA.org to get the latest news on what God is doing in FCA across the world.

Ministry Fundamentals

The Ministry Fundamentals are the core competencies of our ministry and the foundation of all we do as a ministry. FCA's Ministry Fundamentals are Share, Seek, Lead, and Love.

Share Him Boldly (Acts 5:42) – FCA shares Jesus with those who do not have a personal relationship with Him. We believe that Salvation is only found in Jesus, and with great passion we desire to share the Gospel with the world. (Present Gospel)

Seek Him Passionately (Acts 17:11) – FCA equips and encourages others to seek Him daily. A life-long pursuit of knowing and loving Jesus takes perseverance and discipline. (Disciple Others)

Lead Others Faithfully (1 Corinthians 14:12) – FCA desires to model Jesus' example of serving by seeking out the needs of others, developing trusting relationships, and caring about the individuals we serve. (Reach Out)

Love Others Unconditionally (1 Peter 4:11) – FCA realizes that the most powerful force in the world is love. We desire to be obedient to the Lord as He said that we would be known by our love. (Fellowship Together)

Core Values

FCA has four Core Values that are a standard for all relationships inside and outside the ministry. These values are timeless and unchanging. Our relationships will demonstrate steadfast commitment to Jesus Christ and His Word through Integrity, Serving, Teamwork, and Excellence.

FCA Core Values: Integrity, Serving, Teamwork, and Excellence

Integrity (Proverbs 11:3) – We want our leaders to demonstrate a Christ-like wholeness, privately and publicly. This means always being faithful to follow through on what you say you will do.

Serving (John 13:1-17) – We want our leaders to model Jesus' example of serving others and developing trusting relationships. This means sacrificing time and energy to be available to those for whom you are called to minister to.

Teamwork (Philippians 2:1-4) – Express our unity in Christ in all our relationships. This means being selfless and intent on the purpose of bringing glory to God in everything.

Excellence (Colossians 3:12-24) – Honor and glorify God in all we do. This means being teachable and always doing the best that you can.

Statement of Faith

FCA's Statement of Faith helps us keep Christ the center of our ministry with a clear understanding of what we believe. As a ministry, we focus on what we agree on, not what we disagree about. FCA does not deal with doctrinal differences like the gifts of the Spirit and baptism. This allows us to be inter-denominational while keeping Christ at the core of our ministry.

1. We believe the Bible to be the inspired, the only infallible, authoritative Word of God. (2 Timothy 3:16-17)
2. We believe that there is only one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. (Matthew 28:19)
3. We believe in the deity of Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death through his shed blood, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal return in power and glory. (Deity – John 1:1, 14); (Atonement – Hebrews 9:15-22); (Virgin Birth – Matthew 1:18, 25); (Bodily Resurrection – 1 Corinthians 15:18); (Sinless Life – Hebrews 4:15); (Personal Return – Hebrews 9:27-28)
4. We believe that for the Salvation of lost and sinful men (and women), regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential. (John 3:16; John 5:24; Titus 3:3-7)
5. We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit, by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a godly life. (John 14:15-26; John 16:5-16; Ephesians 1:13, 14)
6. We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost – the saved unto the resurrection of life and the lost unto the resurrection of damnation. (Matthew 25:31-46, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18)
7. We believe in the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ. (Philippians 2:1-4)

How Do I Get Started?

- Pray for God to prepare your campus.
- Select which Ministry Type(s) meets the needs of your campus:
Huddle, Team Bible Study, Coaches Bible Study, Chaplain Program
- Seek your administration's blessing.
- As a Campus Ministry sponsor, fill out the Ministry Leader Application online at fca.org/mla.
- To certify your campus, go to fca.org and click on "Certify Your Campus" under the Campus section. You will need to fill out the "Campus Ministry Request Form."
This form will be sent to your local FCA staff to inform them of your interest in being certified.
- You can also contact your local FCA staff to certify your campus. To contact your local staff, go to fca.org and click on "Find Local FCA Staff" in the Hot Picks section.

**We have developed a five-step process
to build effective campus ministries:**

PRAY → PREPARE → PLAN → PROMOTE → PRODUCTS

Huddle Meeting Agenda

• Meeting Date: _____

• Meeting Purpose: _____
(Share, Seek, Lead, Love)

• Target Group: _____

• **Welcome:** greetings and announcements

• **Warm-Up:** ice-breaker, games, skit

• **Workout:** Bible studies, devotionals, testimonials

• **Wrap-Up:** closing comments

FCA Tools:

Bibles

- God's Game Plan Bible
- Power Bible
- The Coaches Bible
- The Competitor's Bible
- Sports New Testament (Spanish and English versions)

Study/Devotion

- Character Studies
- Team Studies
- Heart of the Competitor
- Heart of a Coach
- Core Value Series
- Leadership Bible Studies

Discipleship

- r12 Coach
- A Biblical Approach to InSideOut Coaching

Multimedia

- Resource DVD
- *FCA Magazine*

Online Resources

- Everything FCA – fca.org
- FCA Campus Ministry Training – fcacampus101.com
- FCAcampustools.com
- Merchandise – fcagear.com
- Ministry Resources – fcaresources.com
- *FCA Magazine* – fca.org
- FCA Discipleship – r12coach.com

Programs

- Fields of Faith – fieldsoffait.com
- One Way 2 Play–Drug Free – ow2p.org
- Team FCA – fca.org/TEAMFCA
- Day of Champions
- Sports Rallies
- Sport-Specific Outreaches
- Leadership Trainings

People

- FCA Staff – fca.org
- Local Community Members
- FCA Board
- Adult Huddles
- Booster Clubs
- P.R.O. (Parents Reaching Out) Teams
- Youth Pastors and Church Ministers



FIELDS OF FAITH

**GET IN THE GAME.
GET IN THE BOOK.**

Take a stand alongside hundreds of thousands of students across the United States, and the world who will gather on their school's athletic field to hear fellow students share their testimonies, challenge each other to read the Bible, and come to faith in Jesus Christ.

**NORTHWEST LOUISIANA FIELDS OF FAITH
OCTOBER 15, 2014**

Contact local staff or go to www.fieldsoffaith.com to find a field near you!

The Competitor's Creed

I am a Christian first and last.

I am created in the likeness of God Almighty to bring Him glory.

I am a member of Team Jesus Christ.

I wear the colors of the cross.

I am a Competitor now and forever.

I am made to strive, to strain, to stretch
and to succeed in the arena of competition.

I am a Christian Competitor

I face my challenger and as such, with the face of Christ.

I do not trust in myself.

I do not boast in my abilities or believe in my own strength.

I rely solely on the power of God.

I compete for the pleasure of my Heavenly Father,
the honor of Christ and the reputation of the Holy Spirit.

My attitude on and off the field is above reproach - my conduct beyond criticism.

Whether I am preparing, practicing or playing;

I submit to God's authority and those He has put over me.

I respect my coaches, officials, teammates and competitors
out of respect for the Lord.

My body is the temple of Jesus Christ

I protect it from within and without.

Nothing enters my body that does not honor the Living God.

My sweat is an offering to my Master.

My soreness is a sacrifice to my Savior.

I give my all – all of the time.

I do not give up. I do not give in.

I do not give out. I am the Lord's warrior –
a competitor by conviction and a disciple of determination.

I am confident beyond reason because my confidence lies in Christ.

The results of my efforts must result in His glory.

LET THE COMPETITION BEGIN.

LET THE GLORY BE GOD'S.



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To access more resources in leading your FCA huddle go to:

www.fcaresources.com