

Church Services

Description:

The program is designed to give suggestions, outlines, resources and information for sports-theme service that can be adapted to a local church context. Create Church “sports-theme” service during the Sundays of major events. Learn how to include prayer, sports-based sermons, create a sports theme environment celebrating the diversity of Christian faith. Suggestions should be adapted to own church environment, creative way to achieve final goal, namely celebrate the diversity in the Christian faith when planning a Major Event.

Objectives:

Church being the body of Christ, it must show the world God’s heart to mankind, recognizing that the world is diverse with different cultures, creeds, traditions, skin colors, values and practices. Church must use mediums of communications that transcend religious, cultural, and geographical barriers to penetrate all these barriers with the Message of love and forgiveness which God through Jesus has communicated to the world.

Target Audience:

Church members having a better appreciate for sports ministry and opportunity for members to invite friend and guests.

How to Organize/Implement:

Sport is a universal language. Church must take this opportunity to show, through sport” the relevance of Christ to as many people as possible. It must be sensitive to others’ values and beliefs and promote common values rather than differences following the example of Jesus communication to non-believers as followed the apostle Paul. Practical ways suggestions:

- Create the basic outline for the sermon using Scriptures.
- Have available resource table in the foyer of the church with tracts, books or booklets of the faith of the athletes.
- Give members appropriate sport ministry resources to share with others.
- Church hosts big screen parties for the opening r closing ceremonies or any other of the evenings or weekend days.
- Invite people on different nights providing food or snacks.
- Get creative people together to brainstorm new and inventive ways of visually making the service enjoyable and relax.
- Practical ways to organize the event i.e. printed invitations, arrangements for local shops, schools, sports clubs, display posters, usage of video, power point, prayer, prepare

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resource packs, decoration of the venue e.g. Sport gear, flags, sport posters and other displays with appropriate Moto.

- Organization of drama, sketch on a sporting theme.
- Sermon from Scripture emphasizing values relating to sports and competition.
- Prayer focus.

Equipment/Resources Needed:

People passionate about sports. These are those with special interests and gifts in particular areas of the overall plan for the Church. These are some of the Scriptures and themes for Soccer Sunday Service sermons:

The Ultimate Goal Philippians 3:14
:: I Corinthians 9:24-27 "Run to Win"
:: Ephesians 6:10-20 "The Right Equipment"
:: Galatians 6:9 "Do Not Become Weary"
:: I Timothy 4:7-8 "Training"
:: I Timothy 6:11-12 "Fight the Good Fight"
:: II Timothy 2:5 "The Victory Crown"
:: 1 Peter 1:7 "More Than Gold"
:: 1 Peter 1:13-16 "Prepare for Action"
:: 1 John 5:4b "Victory that Overcomes"

Extras Information:

Churches can use the 5 Sunday's worship services during the World Cup to run programs

Creativity models:

- a. Some churches in their TUG Soccer Sunday's designed false front doors to resemble the entrance to famous soccer stadiums in their country or other countries and decorated other parts of the church with soccer and sports gear.
- b. Many Soccer Sunday Services had youth or drama groups perform a short sketch on soccer themes.
- c. Other churches TUG Soccer Sunday's provided food that was from the culture of one of the teams in those days matches.
- d. In other churches Soccer Sunday's the pastor wore the jersey of their favorite soccer team - other churches all the elders or deacons wore different jerseys of their favorite national teams or favorite World Cup team - other churches asked everyone attending to wear the colors of their national team if they were one of the final 32 - others asked everyone to wear the colors of one of the teams playing that day - other churches asked everyone to wear socks that were the color of their favorite team etc etc etc.
- e. Churches across the world included in their TUG services prayer for the players and officials.
- f. Printing of a soccer player's testimony for the guests and members. Can be local, national players and/or international players.

The Ultimate Goal Strategies

- g. Opportunity to use the Soccer Sunday's to introduce the idea of ongoing sports ministry for the church.
- h. Many Soccer Sunday Services included a youth soccer player in the church or a committed soccer player on a local team sharing their testimony.
- i. Many Soccer Sunday Services included recruiting volunteers to serve KidsGames and TeenGames. When the KidsGames and TeenGames had been completed prior to the World Cup Sunday's the youth in the KG and TG were acknowledged and parents of the youth were treated as special guests.
- j. For 2010 Soccer Sunday's Services many plan to promote Ubabalo/Coaching for Life and recruiting Ubabalo/Coaching for Life coaches.
- k. Some Soccer Sunday Services included a time to honor soccer coaches and officials from the neighborhood or city.
- l. Normally the Soccer Sunday Churches printed invitation cards and arrange for these to be handed out in local shops, schools, business and sports clubs, display posters and some even placed an ad in the local newspaper.
- m. Each Soccer Sunday the pastors would often present a sports-based sermon or read Scriptures with a sports theme.