

Lessons Christian Men Should Learn From Sports Fans

(and What a Real Christian Can Teach a Sports Fan!)

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us. ² We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, the champion who initiates and perfects our faith. Because of the joy awaiting him, he endured the cross, disregarding its shame. Now he is seated in the place of honor beside God's throne. ³ Think of all the hostility he endured from sinful people; then you won't become weary and give up. – Hebrews 12:1-3 (NLT)

A fan is defined as, *"one who is enthusiastic about a sport, pastime, or performer."*

A fanatic is defined as, *"one who is unreasonably enthusiastic or overly zealous, going beyond what is reasonable."*

1) Real Sports Fans Are Radical!

They do whatever it takes to identify with the team.

Jesus said, "... you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." – Acts 1:8

Note: Real Sports Fans don't mind spending...!

"Why does that guy always talk about giving money?"

"You do so well in so many things—you trust God, you're insightful, you're passionate, you love us—now, I want you to excel also in the gracious act of giving." (2 Cor. 8:7)

"You can give without loving, but you can't love without giving."

Fact: Generous giving becomes a lifestyle for those that truly love God!

2) Real Sports Fans Are Faithful!

Real sports fans are committed...

They're not BANDWAGON fans.

Win or lose, sink or swim ---they are your team!

Paul said, *I want to know Christ and experience the mighty power that raised him from the dead... so I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, has called us.*

Scripture clearly tells us that God loves us...

But Jesus said, "I will never leave you or forsake you."

He loves you and will ALWAYS be faithful to you. Are you faithful to Him?

That's powerful!!

3) Real Sports Fans Are Passionate!

They are resolute and tenacious!

- They are attached to their cause.
- They feel that they are accomplishing something.
- They never stop believing in their team no matter what the circumstances.

Stick with God's grace and His plan for your life!

"...But that matters little. What matters most to me is to finish what God started: the job... Jesus gave me of letting everyone I meet know all about this incredibly extravagant grace of God!! – Acts 20

Don't let anything cause you to lose your passion and the joy of being a fully devoted Christ-follower!

What do Sports Fans NEED to Hear from Authentic Christians?!

4) Real Christians (Fully Devoted Followers of Christ) WIN!

...The goal of today's Super Bowl game between the KC Chiefs and the SF 49er's is not just to make it to the Big Game... **the goal is to WIN the big game!**

Hebrews 12:2... Jesus the Champion!

"In this way, he disarmed the spiritual rulers and authorities. He shamed them publicly by his victory over them on the cross." – Col. 2:15

A real Christian shares in this overwhelming victory!

It is AMAZING! You were created by God to win!

NOBODY talked more about winning and victory in the New Testament than the Apostle Paul.

2 Cor. 2:14 – Thanks be to God, who always causes us to triumph through Christ!

The only way that you can lose, is to reject God's free offer of salvation...

You choose to either be a winner or a loser! God has made the way for you to be a winner... but He gives **YOU** the choice!!

SUPER SUNDAY 2024?

This could be...

- **The day you decided to be a winner, and never again a loser!**
- **The day you decided to wrap your arms and your heart around the incredible plan God has for your life!**
- **The day you entered into a life-time bond and genuine relationship with Him.**
- **The day that changed everything... they day God's grace transformed your life!**