

## DEVELOPING A THEOLOGY OF SPORT AND COMPETITION

*This is an outline for leading a discussion on this topic.*

### Is Sport Good or Bad? How Do We decide?

#### Interactive Questions:

*Is Sport good or bad?*

*What has been your experience?*

*Has your church or church leaders spoken out about sport?*

### Escaping the Trap of “Good” or “Bad”

God does give us direction in some areas of life.

(For example, the 10 Commandments guide us in marriage, sexual conduct, possessions, respecting the life of others, etc.)

But in other areas of life, He hasn't spoken directly and so Christians have argued about whether they are good or bad, whether they can participate or not.

(for example, dancing, movies, alcohol consumption, dating, dress... Sport)

### Another View – Following God's Story on Earth

#### Creation

What adjective was used to summarize things as God was creating? (Genesis 1)

#### Fall

What happened to God's new and good creation? (Genesis 3)

“Fig leaf” solutions (verse)

2 Corinthians 5:1-4 – groaning to be clothed

Hiding, shame (verse 8)

Blame (verse 12,13)

Curses (verse 14-19)

#### Redemption

What was God's solution?

#### A Redeemer/Savior – Genesis 3:15

1 John 3:8 – destroy the devil's work

Colossians 2:15 – disarmed the authorities

Romans 16:20 – will crush Satan under our feet

Revelation 20:10

#### New clothes – Genesis 3:21

Romans 13:14 – put on the Lord Jesus



## DEVELOPING a THEOLOGY of SPORT and COMPETITION (continued)

Galatians 3:27

Ephesians 4:24

Colossians 3:10-12

1 Corinthians 15:53 – we will put on immortality

2 Corinthians 5:1-7

Romans 9:33 – not be ashamed

Revelation 3:4,5

Revelation 3:17-18 – buy new clothes

Revelation 7:9

### Viewing Sport through God's Story

#### Interactive Questions

What elements of Sport “creation” are good?

What elements of Sport are “fallen”?

Can Sport be redeemed? What is the role of Christ's Church?

How do we take the shame and blame out of Sport?

How do we put “new clothes” on the world of Sport?

### If God is Lord Over All ... Does this Include Sport?

Psalms 24:1 - the earth is the Lord's, and all it contains, the world and those who dwell in it

Colossians 1:16 - created by Christ and for Christ

If God is Lord overall, is sport included or excluded?

### The Elements of Sport

How do we incorporate “Kingdom Values” or Biblical truth into these elements?

- Play
- Physical Fitness
- Character development – learning to follow, learning to lead, discipline, listening skills, teamwork, patience, control of emotions, obedience, learning to make choices
- Social benefits – friendships and memories
- Skill development
- Competition