

**News And
Information
For Perry
Hill Road
Members
And Friends**

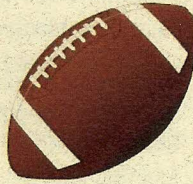
Perry Hill Road Church Of Christ

August 21, 2016

www.perryhillroadchurch.org

A Team of Christians

Football is in full swing this fall. You may watch high school, college, or professional groups of individuals who are working together for a common goal, which is to win. These individuals must work as a team to be able to accomplish their goals of being successful. I believe that working as a team is a lot like being a Christian. We need to be ready for our competitor; we need to work together to reach our goal. And how will we use our gifts so that we can all succeed in going to Heaven?



By nature, sports are a competition, but to compete you must be in the game. Just as a coach chooses players to be in the football game, God has chosen us. Our competitor is focused on our defeat. "Be sober, be vigilant; because the adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour." [1 Peter 5:8](#)

We also compete against ourselves. It is sad to say, but just like in real life football games, most of the people in the stadium sit in the stands. Then, there are those who are on the team but sit on the bench. Some of us prefer to rest on the bench (or pew) and observe the game – both with encouragement and more often with criticism about how others are playing on the field. God doesn't call us to be spectators, but participants. Our field is the world, and our goal is to win it for Jesus Christ. "The field is the world, the good seeds are the sons of the kingdom, but the tares are the sons of the wicked one." [Matthew 13:38](#)

Sure, some will have a special call to play a bigger role, but everyone is called onto the field to play. Even if you may not have a key role on a particular play, you must still be ready at a moment's notice to dash onto the field and play your part when the coach calls your number to be on the field. You must clearly know your position, train, and practice your plays to be best prepared for that moment when you might be called upon to make a difference in the game. "But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for hope that is in you, with meekness and fear." [1 Peter 3:15](#) *continued on the next page*

