



# TRY THIS: A Bible Football Team



## Intro

Whether you are a football fan or not, you will be inundated with news about the NFL Draft for weeks after the draft. So, why not take advantage of a ready-made analogy for how God builds His own team?

## Materials

Each student will need a Bible. You'll need a whiteboard or data projection for displaying student responses.

## Open

After your group has gathered, open your time by brainstorming on this question:

**If you were to draft a football team (or build an entire football operation) using Bible people, who would you draft for what positions?**

*You may want to offer a position such as quarterback or running back, asking students who they'd pick for that position. As soon as you get your first response your group will be off and running, but if you need some ideas, check out the list below. (These answers came from a middle school Bible study group.) Write or project your group's answers as they are given. As the ideas flow, students may think of people you DON'T want on your team; add those to your list. You'll see a sample list below of those names, too.*

## TEAM MEMBERS

- Quarterback:** Jesus (of course; he's always the QB)
- Running Backs:** Jacob, he has good fakes  
Paul, he runs all over the place
- Wide Receivers:** Andrew, James, John; they're fisherman; they can catch anything
- Offensive Line:** Esau, Samson, Goliath (who cares that he's a Philistine, he's big)
- Defensive Line:** Joshua, he breaks through walls
- Middle Linebacker:** Peter, he's a rock
- Field Goal Kickers:** Shadrach, Meshach or Abednego; they can take the heat

## OPERATIONS PEOPLE

- Owner:** God
- Coach:** King Solomon, he's so wise
- Team Doctor:** Luke, the physician
- Head Referee:** Moses, he knows all the rules
- Ticket Taker:** Matthew, good with numbers as a tax guy



### SUPPORT PERSONNEL

- Water Boy:** John the Baptist
- Cheerleaders:** Mary, Martha, Mary Magdalene
- Halftime Band:** Angels and David on his harp
- Mascot:** Lion (of Judah)
- Mascot Keeper:** Noah, but you need to have two mascots

### PEOPLE YOU DON'T WANT ON THE TEAM

- Zacchaeus :** Too small
- Judas:** He may score for the other team
- Jonah:** He'd get eaten up by the competition
- Adam:** He doesn't have a uniform; insists on playing naked
- Pilate:** Too influenced by the other team
- Thief on the cross** Had a chance, and he blew it

### Digging In

After you've created your team (or football operation), direct your students to read 1 Corinthians 12:18-19 from their Bibles or a Bible app. Then ask:

**Who has drafted you to His team?**

**After He has drafted you, where did He put you?**

### Taking It Inward

Process this passage by discussing these questions.

**What events/experiences have happened that have led you to be a part of this youth ministry?**

**How have you seen God's hand in those events?**

**Knowing God has picked this "team" (your youth ministry) to minister together, how does that make you feel toward fellow members of this youth ministry?**

### Seal the Deal

Close your time by discussing these action points:

**God has placed you with this "team" because of your unique talents and giftedness. What can you do to develop these talents and gifts?**

**What can you do to help others develop their talents and gifts?**

**How can we work together as a team to do what God has called us to do?**