

Every kingdom divided against itself will be ruined, and every city or household divided against itself will not stand. Matthew 12:25 (NIV)

Definition:

A group of people who understand and are committed to a shared $\underline{purpose},$ and a common $\underline{direction.}$

"Why are we here?"

To creatively <u>love</u> and <u>lead</u> people in a <u>growing</u> relationship with <u>Jesus</u>.

Player's on the Team:

Are <u>recruited</u>.

18 One day as Jesus was walking along the shore of the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers—Simon, also called Peter, and Andrew—throwing a net into the water, for they fished for a living.

19 Jesus called out to them, "Come, follow me, and I will show you how to fish for people!" Matthew 4:18-19 (NLT)

God chose you to participate.

16 You did not choose me; <u>I chose you</u>. And I gave you this work: to go and produce fruit, fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you anything you ask for in my name. This is my command: Love each other. John 15:16-17 (NCV)

10 God has made us what we are. He has created us in Christ Jesus to live lives filled with good works that he has prepared for us to do. Ephesians 2:10 (GWT)

Being recruited shows you're valued.

9 ... for you are a chosen people. You are royal priests, a holy nation, God's very own possession. As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for he called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light. 1 Peter 2:9 (NLT)

Following Jesus is a contact sport.

Player's on the Team:

Love the game.

Loving the game gives you <u>passion</u> in the game.

Believe they can <u>make</u> a <u>difference</u>.

No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father. Matthew 5:15-16 (NLT)

Knowing we can make a difference becomes a attitude.

Player's on the Team:

Want to Win.

Don't you realize that in a race everyone runs, but only one person gets the prize? So run to win! All athletes are disciplined in their training. They do it to win a prize that will fade away, but we do it for an eternal prize. So I run with purpose in every step. I am not just shadowboxing. I discipline my body like an athlete, training it to do what it should. Otherwise, I fear that after preaching to others I myself might be disqualified. 1 Corinthians 9:24-27 (NLT)

We do what we do because it matters.

A "WIN" at the Quest is:

Loving God Completely, and creatively Loving People.

Under his direction, the whole body is fitted together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love." Ephesians 4:16 (TLB)

Identifying the "win" defines our actions.

Make a careful exploration of who you are and the work you have been given, and then sink yourself into that. Don't be impressed with yourself. Don't compare yourself with others. Each of you must take responsibility for doing the creative best you can with your own life. Galatians 6:4-5 (MSG)

Each of you has received a gift to use to serve others. Be good servants of God's various gifts of grace. 1 Peter 4:10 (NCV)

Have Questions? Text them to: (559)464-5754

Here are some questions that can be used in Connection Groups: These questions also work well for your personal time with God.

- What spoke most to you from Sundays Talk? Explain.
- Have you ever considered yourself to be recruited to be a part of God's team? Why or why not?
- Do you feel that God values your talent? Explain.
- Do you feel there is a difference in loving the game as a fan, and loving the game as a player? Explain. Do you identify as a fan or a player?
- How does loving the game give us passion in the game?
- Do you believe that God can make a difference in the lives of others through you? How does knowing we make a difference change our attitude on the field?
- Before this Sunday, how would you have identified a "good Sunday"?
- What is our common definition of a win? How does that definition get lived out as we do life together?
- Read Galatians 6:4-5 (above) Talk about what that means for us.
- Have you identified your position on the field? Are you playing to win?