**Devotion 1 of 12**

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**ARIZONA CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY**

**CORE VALUES**

**FAITH**, **Influence**, **Relationships**, **Excellence.**

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**FAITH // LEVITICUS 6:13**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AO1</th>
<th>Audience of One. Making spiritual growth a priority among teams</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TO-BY-FOR</td>
<td>Biblical competition according to God's Word, by God's Power, for God's Glory</td>
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<tr>
<td>EXPONENTIAL CAPACITY</td>
<td>Prioritizing disciple-making through the culture of sport and relationships with others</td>
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**RELATIONSHIPS // MATTHEW 22:37, 39**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>THINK</th>
<th>Is it True, Helpful, Inspiring, Proper,礼貌 (Polite)</th>
<th>ASAP2</th>
<th>Alternate Suffering and Pain, as soon as possible, by compassion. Prioritize others' suffering together with a desire to alleviate it</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I AM 3RD</td>
<td>God First, Others Second, I am Third. Embrace God's love to maximize potential and restoration with others</td>
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**EXCELLENCE // COLOSSIANS 3:23**

| DOUBLE WIN | Personally pursuing the best in oneself while enhancing the performance of others around you |
| ALWAYS COMPETE | Integrating the spirit of competition into excellence, pursuing |
| C4C | Competing for Christlike excellence, demonstrating discipline, character, and integrity in all four dimensions |

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DEVOTION: FAITH

PRINCIPLE: “AUDIENCE OF ONE”

Making spiritual growth a priority among teams

Lev 6:13 The fire must be kept burning on the altar continuously; it must not go out
Arizona Christian University Athletics is committed to spiritual growth of every person associated with the team. We compete for an “Audience Of One.” Teams have different cultures and coaching philosophies but we all have one audience in life and sport.

Depending on your current spiritual maturity, you may have never experienced fully integrating your faith into sport. Many athletes know God but fewer percentages understand how to completely worship God as they compete. That is why we are passionate about the prioritization of your spiritual growth and the growth of your team. Athletics is one the greatest platforms to reveal and develop our character with truth.
We all have seen athletes who demonstrate their faith in sport. Some athletes point to the sky after performing well, while other athletes wear Bible verses on their eye black or tape. There are athletes who are outspoken about their faith in interviews and athletes who pray after games with opponents. As we think of athletes who are bold in demonstrating their faith we must stop and evaluate: are we embracing God as our primary audience?

God’s word tells us that whatever we do, whether in word or deed, do it all as a representative of Jesus (Col 3:17). Spend some time thinking and discussing where you and your team are with playing for the AO1.
When we honestly self-evaluate, we can receive God’s grace and make a fresh commitment to compete for the Audience of One. Our personal and collective spiritual growth in the Word of God will be the driving force behind our ability to know and compete for One Audience. In athletic competition, outcomes are not guaranteed, winning seasons are not guaranteed, and performance is never guaranteed. Only God’s Word stands forever.

Isaiah 40:8 states, “The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever” (also read Heb 4:12). Christian competitors and teams must prioritize the process of understanding God’s Word. As we grow in our understanding of God, we can build and grow into our ability to compete for Him. What changes can you (and your team) make to have a stronger commitment to the Word?
Many believing athletes struggle with integrating faith in sport. However, when we are honest in our evaluation and become more consistent in reading God’s Word, we can better apply our faith into the competitive experience. Jesus says in John 15:5, “Apart from Me you can do nothing.” How are you and your team doing with integrating the Word of God in practice and competition? What can you change personally and collectively to compete for the AO1?

Consider some of the following application tools: Assess daily where you are with AO1. Schedule weekly team spiritual development sessions. Schedule brief daily or weekly peer led team devotions. Coordinate pregame inspiration for your team. Serve the community together. Work with Spiritual Leadership staff to establish your overall plan.
Lord, we ask that you would forgive us for any weaknesses we have making spiritual growth a priority. Help us to grow individually and together so we can compete for the Audience of One. Holy Spirit, reveal to us any ways that we fall short of applying and integrating the truth of your Word in our lives and competition. Lord transform our culture and lives with truth, in Jesus name, Amen.