



# The Gospel and Sports

Dr. John Perritt

## Talk 1: The God of Sports

Genesis 1:1, 26-28

1. What point made the biggest impact on you? Anything you disagreed with or need clarification?
2. How would you define idolatry?
3. How can our culture's labeling of sport as necessity be a good thing? How can it be a bad thing?
4. What does it mean for humanity to be sub-creators? How do you see this in your own life?
5. Discuss: "When we cease to worship God, we do not worship nothing, we worship anything." – Chesterton

## Talk 2: The God of Spectators

Genesis 1:28

1. What point made the biggest impact on you? Anything you disagreed with or need clarification?
2. How would you define stewardship? How did this talk help you think about stewardship?
3. What is the creation mandate? How does that truth help you think about your calling/profession?
4. How is stewardship of the body helpful in the realm of sports? How do sports hinder/hurt stewardship of the body?
5. How do you try and talk to your children about their talents/gifts?

## Talk 3: The God of Self

Genesis 3:1-7

1. What point made the biggest impact on you? Anything you disagreed with or need clarification?
2. What's your reaction to the opening illustration; i.e., mother screaming at son?
3. What are some of the most common lies Christian believes about God, themselves, others, the world, etc.? What are some other common lies athletes believe?
4. Discuss: "Our children are treasures, not trophies."
5. How do we foster prideful self-love through sports? How does our culture do this? What are some ways we can help our children see and understand this?

## Talk 4: The God of Seasons

Psalms 90:12

1. What point made the biggest impact on you? Anything you disagreed with or need clarification?
2. What are some aspects of your story that have shaped your view on sports?
3. How does the reality of "numbered days" shift your perspective on your family, job, church, sports, etc.?
4. How are we often near-sighted in our engagement with sports? How do sports often take our minds off of eternity?
5. What does discerning sports engagement look like? How can Christians seek to maintain balance between church commitment and sports commitment?

## Talk 5: The God of Souls

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

1. What point made the biggest impact on you? Anything you disagreed with or need clarification?
2. What are some practical ways you seek to make Christ a higher priority in your life?
3. What are some practices that have assisted you with the discipleship of your family? How do you seek to impart the faith to your children?
4. Are you able to have conversation in your home? Conversation with your spouse? Children? Friends in the church? The "busyness epidemic" has impacted our conversation significantly.
5. What do you love most about your church? How has the Lord grown your love for the church throughout your life?