Development

Ready:

"I still have many things to tell you, but you can't bear them now." -- John 16:12

Set

Development is a word used extensively in sports when talking about athletes reaching optimal athletic performance. For example, professional baseball teams have minor league systems with trained coaches they call "development people." Prospects need development to acquire the knowledge and master the skills and attitude necessary to move to the next level.

Jesus spent much of His time on earth developing the 12 apostles to not only spread the Good News but also lead the Early Church. He imparted knowledge, provided skill development opportunities, and constantly taught them about the importance of the attitude of the heart. Like many developing athletes, they, too, were pushed at times with great care and concern.

As Jesus prepared for Gethsemane and the fulfillment of His mission — to give His life for the sin of man — He passed along wonderful teachings and truths to His disciples. Jesus recognized that the disciples were not fully equipped to handle what lay ahead, despite more than three years of His teachings. What then followed is the great promise to all believers in the Gospel of Jesus: He promised to send the Holy Spirit to guide them in all truth.

As we strive to develop as athletes and coaches, let us also ask God to develop us as His followers in the power and care of the Holy Spirit.

Go

- How has God developed you over time in knowledge, skills and attitude?
- In what ways have you done your part to develop for competition and represent Christ?

Workout

Philippians 2:1–5

Overtime

"God, please make me teachable so that I may increase my knowledge of you and learn how to share the Good News with others. Help me to do all of this with the attitude of Jesus. Amen."

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