

## **Know the Source**

n/a

### **Ready:**

*No wisdom, no understanding, and no counsel [will prevail] against the Lord. A horse is prepared for the day of battle, but victory comes from the Lord.*

Proverbs 21:30-31

### **Set**

In 1982, the Miami Dolphins football team faced the New England Patriots at Schaefer Stadium in Foxboro, Massachusetts. Snow began to fall during the game, and by the fourth quarter the wintry conditions had contributed to a scoreless tie. But late in the game, the Patriots drove down the field and came within field-goal range, where a successful kick would likely win the game. The New England coach ordered a snowplow to clear a spot for the kicking team, enabling the kicker to set his foot firmly on the turf. As a result, he kicked the game-winning field goal.

Tremendous preparation goes into competing at high levels. Coaches put athletes through drills to condition their bodies and teach athletes strategies to prepare their minds. Still, many of the variables associated with winning are outside of the control of the coach. Weather conditions, travel situations and lucky bounces all play a part in achieving victory. Experienced coaches prepare for the factors that are within their control and accept those that are outside their control.

As Christians, we are faced with the reality of uncontrollable factors when we share our faith with others. We can say all the right words at all the right times, and yet we may never see someone make a decision for Christ. Thankfully, God does not check our win-loss record! Some of the people that we encounter will accept with great joy the message that Jesus Christ loved them so much that He gave His life for them. Sadly, others will reject it, and sometimes we will never know the outcome. Even so, we must take every opportunity to testify to Christ by living out our faith with integrity, trusting that God's Spirit will work according to His purposes!

### **Go**

1. What opportunities have you had to share your faith in word or by example?
2. How would you summarize the gospel message to someone who asked?
3. Who are some people in your life for whom you can pray to receive Jesus Christ?

### **Workout**

Matthew 13:1-23; 28:16-20

Luke 9:1-6

Acts 8:26-40

### **Overtime**

*Almighty God, Your ways are perfect and Your love is unconditional. Help me to reflect that love to others today that they may know You! In Christ's name, amen.*

### **Bible Reference:**

Acts 8



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