

## **Rookie Rush**

### **Ready:**

*“But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and reaching forward to what is ahead, I pursue as my goal the prize promised by God’s heavenly call in Christ Jesus.” – Philippians 3:13b–14*

### **Set**

One of my favorite sports movies is “*The Rookie*.” It’s the story of Jimmy Morris, a pitcher who gets one last shot at the big leagues after injuries cut short his single-A minor league baseball career. At age 35, Jimmy becomes the oldest rookie to pitch in the majors, and his trip to the big leagues is marked by the *Rookie Rush*—five things rookies feel and experience:

**Passion.** Rookies live, eat, and breathe their sport. Passion and purpose drive them. In your relationship with Jesus, the passion for your sport should take a back seat to your passion for Christ.

**Belief.** They believe in the impossible, have unquenchable optimism, and expect great things. Believe in God’s power to overcome any challenge with a can-not-be-denied belief.

**Humility.** Rookies pick up after practice and go the extra mile to serve their team. Humility attracts people to Christ, and in your life you can demonstrate humility through your actions.

**Gratitude.** They take nothing for granted and have an attitude of gratitude. Rookies give thanks for seemingly minor things and for great challenges. Your attitude of gratitude can be contagious.

**Intensity.** They are willing to do whatever it takes to make it. They go above-and-beyond. They get to practice early and stay late. The disciples learned how to pursue Jesus and how to combat the enemy—with diligence.

If you are continuously fueled by the *Rookie Rush*—passion, belief, humility, gratitude, and intensity—you will grow closer to Christ and become the best you can be.

### **Go**

1. Do you have the *Rookie Rush* in your relationship with Christ?
2. Which of the five key characteristics do you have in abundance? Struggle with?

### **Workout**

Mark 9:17–24

Luke 18:27

### **Overtime**

*Father, thank You for the opportunity to play and compete. Reignite in me a spirit of passion, belief, and intensity for living and growing in Christ. Amen.*

**Bible Reference:**

Mark 9:17-24

Luke 18:27



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