

## Why the Jersey?

### **Ready:**

“Now this is what the Lord says—the one who created you, Jacob, and the one who formed you, Israel—“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your name; you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you, and the rivers will not overwhelm you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be scorched, and the flame will not burn you.” – Isaiah 43:1-2

### **Set**

Have you ever wondered why we wear jerseys when we play sports? Practically, they help us identify a team and players within that team. Emotionally, they signify belonging.

When you put on a jersey, you are no longer just yourself but one of many. Even if you play an individual sport, your jersey still attaches you to your school or organization as a member. With that attachment comes unity, partners and friends. When a team goes out on the field, they know who is theirs to protect, support and encourage. The jersey is the symbol behind the unity of the grind.

We don't have a literal jersey to wear as God's children, but when we decide to become members of His family, to belong to His kingdom, we are on His team. Being a member of God's team gives you His protection, support and encouragement, just like your team members are supposed to give each other.

In [Isaiah](#), God tells us there will be battles in life, but God is with us. In a challenging game, your teammates are right there sweating it out and fighting alongside you.

Being a part of a team doesn't make hardship in sports go away, but it does make it easier by having people to help and guide you. Being a Christian doesn't make life easy, but it does assure you of never fighting alone.

When you go to church, FCA, Bible study, etc., I hope you feel as though you are standing in a huddle with your team, wearing your jerseys, ready to go out and fight together.

### **Go**

- Do you see yourself as a member of God's team?
- How are you being a positive teammate to your brothers and sisters in Christ?
- What hardship are you walking through right now? Can you see God with you?

### **Workout**

2 Chronicles 20:17

Romans 8:31

### **Overtime**

“Father, thank You for bringing us onto your team. Thank You for giving us support, protection and encouragement. I pray that we look at how we support our teammates and do better walking with them into battle. God, show us where You are amid the hardship within our own life; do not hide Your face from us, Amen.”



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