

St. Matthew's/Hope VBS/Soccer Camp

MONDAY, JUNE 15

BIBLE STORY TODAY: Exodus 3, Moses and the burning bush (God calls Moses to be His servant).



Today we learned how to “dribble” or pass the ball in soccer. We are passing the ball to each other as we work hard against the other team to score a goal. We can learn and be taught how to play soccer and to use the skills taught to help us become successful players. But without the abilities given to us by God we couldn't run and kick the ball. Those abilities are given to us by God. We did absolutely nothing to earn that ability. We are fearfully and wonderfully made by God, says Luther in the explanation of the first article.

If our bodies abilities and functions are given to us by God and we did nothing to earn or make us have the different skills we have, we use what we are given in a God pleasing way. We can do much to make us better in our skills, but our bodies are God given.

In our spiritual lives it is the same. Our faith was given to us by the Holy Spirit. We can't come to God or ask Him to come to us. The Bible says, in **Romans 8:28**, “**we have been called according to His purpose.**” We were called by God, not by our decision but by His will, according to His purpose. His purpose is for us to lead lives that bring glory to Him not to us. We are to go and preach to all nations the sweet Gospel message of salvation to all people by the saving work of Christ.

In the Bible story of Moses in the burning bush, we see how God took a man and called him to be His servant. This man was a sinner and surely didn't ask to be a worker for God. Moses wasn't willing and even tried to give God excuses as to why he wasn't fit for the job of leading the Israelites out of Egypt, but God used the power of the Holy Spirit to strengthen him and sent him to carry out His will.

Just as in our everyday physical lives we can practice to be better soccer players or better baseball players we can also become stronger Christians, with the power of the Holy Spirit, as we hear God's Word by attending church and Bible study at Sunday Bible School, Christian Day School, and adult Bible Study and by reading the Bible and having daily devotion in our homes.

If we want to be good soccer players, and be able to win games we practice and go to games to see how to improve our skills. If we want to be stronger Christians and be able to win our battle against Satan and his evil helpers, we need to practice our skills and increase our knowledge of the Bible to reach and teach those who do not know Christ.

“Are you so foolish? After beginning with the Spirit, are you now trying to attain your goal by human effort?”

Galatians 3:3



Thanks to Coach Luedke for coming from Wisconsin Lutheran College,

Richard Young from Luther Preparatory School

Stehanie Koch from Lakeside Lutheran High School

Welcome to Soccer Camp