

St. Matthew's/Hope VBS/Soccer Camp

TUESDAY, JUNE 16

BIBLE STORY TODAY: Genesis 19 Sodom and Gomorrah destroyed, Lot's wife turns to a pillar of salt.



“No to Toes”, is what Coach Luedke told us. If we use our toe to kick the ball we can't keep control over the ball. We use the side of our foot to control the ball. We get better contact with the ball and we can control where the ball goes. That is really important. If we don't control the ball, the other team will take the ball away and we lose the opportunity to score goals. That is difficult to do, we want to use old habits and kick the ball with our toe. Spiritually, it's the same thing. We know what God wants for us, that is to obey His Law. If we could do that we would be perfect Christians and our lives would be a lot happier. That doesn't happen, old habits and our sinful nature that we were born with cause us to sin and break God's Laws every single day. The Bible says in **Romans 3:23**, “**For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.**” When we don't use what we learn in soccer camp we might lose the game. When we don't follow God's Laws we lose eternal life with Jesus in heaven.

In our Bible story today we learned of two great cities in Biblical times that were exceeding evil. Every sinful pleasure was being indulged in, with the result being that God had decided to destroy it. Even with Abraham pleading with God to save it, as his nephew Lot lived there. Even with Abrahams pleading to save it for 10 just men, God could not find 10 men and showered burning sulfur on the cities and all was destroyed. Lot and his family were led to safety and told not to look back. Lot's wife disobeyed and was turned into a pillar of salt.

We too are disobedient to God and should be destroyed, but by His grace and mercy God sent His Son, Jesus to die for our sins and save us from eternal punishment. Just two months ago we celebrated Easter Sunday. Easter Sunday was a day of celebration for Christians as it is the day Jesus rose from the dead. By His rising from the dead, we see God the Father's approval of what Jesus did for you and for me. We are sinners and can not keep God's Law, but by God's grace and mercy He sent His Son, Jesus to pay the price for our sins. When Jesus rose from the dead He showed us and the entire world that the price for all the people's sin was paid in full. There is nothing that needs to be done. The job is complete, there is nothing you and anyone can do to pay one cent of the price. In fact Jesus said in His last words on the cross, “**It is finished**”. What joy you and I have in knowing that fact.

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

Galatians 3:3



God takes care of all our needs