

# ***Go Team!***

## ***We Are all in This Together With Jesus*** **Ephesians 1:22-23**

Considering the gigantic place sports plays in many of our lives, “team” is defined by most in athletic terms. Coaches are all too familiar with the indispensable element that is team play. The church is no different. In fact, the Bible even uses sports metaphors to describe our service to God (i.e. Heb. 12:1-2; I Cor. 9:24-27). Therefore, it is no stretch to think of a local congregation in terms of a team (Eph. 4:16; I Cor. 12:12-27). Even more significantly, we are a team led, filled, and energized by Jesus Himself.

### **We Are a Team**

- Successful teams work together (Eph. 4:16)
- Successful teams are made up of members who know their roles (I Cor. 12:19-20)
- Successful teams sacrifice (Lk. 9:23)
- Successful teams have commitment (Phil. 3:6-8)
- Successful teams believe they will succeed (Phil. 4:13)
- Successful teams are enthusiastic (Rom. 5:8-11)
- Successful teams practice (Heb. 5:12-14)
- Successful teams are always looking for ways to improve (Phil. 3:12-14)

### **Realities**

- The actual state of the church
- The intended reality for the church

### **The Jesus Factor**

- Jesus is the head of the team (Eph. 1:22-23)
- Our love for Him motivates us to seek and do His will with excellence and perseverance (Jn. 14:15; II Cor. 5:14-15)

Indeed, we are a team, at least by biblical definition. Each of us, however, must look within to see if we are playing the game or missing in action. As we are in the locker room ready to take the field (cf. Heb. 10:24-25), are there any decisions or changes that need to be made right now?