



FCA Wrestling – Team Huddles CORE PRINCIPLES & LEADERSHIP GUIDELINES

Welcome Group leader! Thanks for organizing this “Team Huddle” group. This means you want to discuss and learn along with your group what the lessons mean.

Does this mean you need to know all the answers? NO. Just say “That is a great question and I don’t know the answer. What do you think it means?” If a question begs an answer, just say “I will find out and get back to you” and then follow up!

As group leader, you have a few responsibilities. These include: organizing a time, a place, and a group of wrestlers who want meet, and guiding your group through these lessons. Below are a few “core principles & guidelines” that will help your group stay on task. You will want to go through these “core beliefs & guidelines” during your first meeting time. You may have to ask the questions, guide the discussion or encourage others to talk a bit more but you can do it!

If any important issues or questions come up, or if there are serious needs of a group member, PLEASE call Bill Gifford (with FCA Wrestling) for some guidance!

1. **Confidentiality:** Anything shared in group time is to be held in strict confidence. Very hard to do, but let’s try. This helps people feel safe to share and it shows respect for one another.
2. **TIME:** Be respectful of others’ time by starting and ending on time. This will allow the coaches and kids to get home for dinner and their evening responsibilities.
3. **Encourage everyone to talk:** Don’t let any one person dominate the conversation. Graciously re-direct the conversation to another wrestler if one person dominates the sharing time. It is also important to try to stay on topic and support the lesson. Sometimes silence is good for some to think or start to talk.
4. **Major on the majors:** Stay on topic of the day with the materials you have. Do not bring in politics, what your church or preacher said, and other potentially inflammatory topics should be avoided.
5. **This is not a counseling session:** Members can best serve one another by praying and encouraging the person in need. **If a real serious issue / problem comes up, please refer this person to someone who can help them.** Alert Bill Gifford, and perhaps call a local pastor you trust.
6. **Attendance:** Make a commitment to come every week.
7. **Prayer:** Encourage group and individual prayer to gain a deeper relationship with Jesus.
8. **Worship:** God loves song, praise, and music! Suggest some contemporary Christian artists to listen to. Many kids do not even know these exist!