



FCA Wrestling – Team Huddle

Week 12: “Respecting Authority”

Rom. 13: 1 – 5

“Everyone must submit to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except from God, and those that exist are instituted by God.... For government is God’s servant to you for good...”

We all report to somebody. For us as student-athletes, there are several people in our chain of command. We have our parents, school bus drivers, teachers, our administrators, and our coaches. Our referees are even authority figures in our sport. One of the big lies in our culture is that it is our job to question decisions we disagree with all the time. While there may be a time and a place for having reasonable debates with those in authority over us, it isn’t always the right time. Also, we have to consider that God put those people in a position of authority over us, so it is our job to respect their position and do our job in our roles. As athletes, we need to trust that God has put our coaches in charge of our wrestling training to make us better athletes and better people. We may not always be happy with their decisions, but we need to respect them and realize that their perspective comes from years of experience that we don’t have.

Sometimes in a wrestling match you may see an official make a questionable call. There are right ways and wrong ways to handle that situation. Hopefully you have seen more right ways than wrong, but it’s a good idea to decide ahead of time how you will respond to that situation.

The same goes in life. Because we are all sinful creatures (like the Bible says and we all know) it is inevitable that we will encounter a decision from our parents, coaches, teachers, or employers that we will not like. Decide today how you will deal with that situation so you don’t have to figure it out in the heat of the moment. Remember **Proverbs 15:1**, “**A kind word turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.**”

Thought Questions:

1. Do you tend to question authority or accept authority? In light of the Scripture from Romans 13, what should be my general disposition to authority figures?
2. Should I unconditionally follow authority figures or are there cases where it is reasonable to question a decision? What is a wrong way to do this? What is the best way to do this?
3. In a wrestling match, what is the best way to honor God in a situation where you disagree with a call?

CLOSE WITH A SHORT PRAYER