



FCA Wrestling – Team Huddle

Week 14: “Getting the ‘funk’ out of our life; Keeping right with God.” (I Jn 1:8 -10; Lk. 18:9-14)

What happens when a wrestler is not focused on his goals, and does not discipline himself in his training the way he should? What happens when he starts following the crowd”, or “partying”, when he lets poor eating and sleeping habits become the norm in his life? Of course, we know the answer: Instead of improving as an athlete, he declines. All of these distractions and temptations cause the athlete to fall into a slump, or a “funk”. Just like a wrestler needs to clear the “funk” out of his / her life to succeed on the mats, so we as individuals must clear out the “funk” in our lives to have an unfettered and growing relationship with God.

Last week we talked about how all improvement starts with an honest evaluation of self. It is true in wrestling, and it is true in life. Once again, getting the “funk” out of our lives starts with honest self-evaluation, and honesty in our relationship with God. Just like bad habits can ruin a wrestling career, sin can ruin our relationship with God. Staying humble, repentant, and surrendered will keep you in relationship with Him.

In Luke 18: 9-14: Jesus told a parable to some ‘religious leaders’ who were convinced of their own righteousness, and who looked down upon others. Jesus said; "Two men went up into the temple to pray; one was a Pharisee, and the other was a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed to himself like this: ‘God, I thank you, that I am not like the rest of men, extortioners, unrighteous, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week. I give tithes of all that I get. **’But the tax collector, standing far away, wouldn’t even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, a sinner!’** I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted."

Thought Questions:

1. When you look at your life, who are you most like, (the religious leader who thought he had his act together; or the tax-collector, who was fully aware of his sinful state)?
2. Who did Jesus say had the right attitude?
3. Do you remember what the word “confess” means? (Ans. ‘To agree with God)
4. How can you and I keep / maintain a personal relationship with God? (What is the most important attitude we must have to maintain a relationship with Him? Answer: Humility/honesty with Him and ourselves.)
5. Would you like to begin a personal relationship with God today?

CLOSE WITH A SHORT PRAYER