



FCA Wrestling – Team Huddle

Week 13: Locked hands: (John 10:27-30; Rom. 8: 38-39; Heb. 13: 5; 1 Jn. 5: 11-13; Is.40: 11)

In folkstyle wrestling (the style done in high school and college), locked hands from the top position is an illegal move, and will be an automatic 1 pt. penalty. However, in Freestyle & Greco Roman Wrestling, locking hands is legal and a prevalent (frequently used) technique in mat wrestling, to turn one's opponent. In any style of wrestling, locked hands is a very effective way to control your opponent's body, apply a lot of pressure, and maintain your hold on him.

In the Christian life, the Bible tells us that God has His children locked in His hands for all eternity. *In John 10: 27 – 29, Jesus said, “My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. And I give eternal life to them, and they shall never perish; and no one shall snatch them out of My hand.”* Jesus says here that His sheep, are given eternal life (life with Him forever), and that “NO ONE can “snatch them out of His hand”. In other words, the grip that God has on His followers is so strong that NO power, or no being (natural or supernatural) can ever snatch (or wrench) them from His hands. He is all-powerful and ever-faithful, Almighty God,. If He says that He has us, His children, locked in His grip, then we are securely locked in His grip, forever. Period. End of story! And to further emphasize this ‘lock’ that God has on His children, His Word promises that ...

1. We are **“sealed with His Holy Spirit of promise**, Who is given as a pledge of our inheritance” (our eternal inheritance, as one of His family members)” – (Eph. 1: 13-14);
2. **Nothing can separate us** from His love – (Rom. 8: 38-39);
3. **He will never leave us** or forsake us – (Heb. 13: 5);
4. **We can never escape His presence** – (Psalm 139: 7-12).

For God's children, His grip on our lives is ironclad, and it is virtually impossible “for any created thing” to break His grip (Rom. 8:39). Talk about an effective grip! **The key for us is to make sure that we have “locked onto Him”**, by surrendering our hearts and lives to Jesus Christ. God calls us, to follow Him (Matt. 16: 24; 19: 21; John 10:27); to abide in Him (John 15: 7); to fight for Him, (2 Tim. 4: 7-8); and to “grasp” (‘lock onto with bulldog tenacity’) the message of His Word, (Titus 1: 7-9).

God wants to bless us and use us for His glory, but He waits for us to respond to His call of love. Have you made that decision to follow Christ? Here is how you can start that personal relationship today:

1. Acknowledge your sin before God, and your need for a Savior (Rom. 3:23; 6:23);
2. **Believe** that Christ paid the price for your sins by dying on the Cross (Rom. 5: 6, 8), and that He rose from the grave on your behalf (1 Cor.15: 3-7);
3. **Confess / profess** your faith in Christ (Acts 16: 30-31; Rom. 10: 9); and **surrender your life to Him by faith** (Rom. 6:11; Gal. 2:20; Eph. 2: 8-9; Col. 3: 1- 3), inviting Him into your heart.

Discussion Questions:

1. When an opponent has his hands locked in the top position, how hard is it to break his grip?
2. If another wrestler's grip is tough to break free from, how hard do you think it would be to break free of God's grip, once you are in His family?
3. How awesome is it to know that God has His children in His grip, forever?
4. Have you surrendered your heart and life to Jesus Christ yet? Why not today?

CONCLUDE WITH PRAYER (Giving them a chance to pray silently & surrender their lives to Christ.)