

Five Minute Sermon

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Teamwork

My one claim to fame is that I, along with many others, taught Jordan Pickford's MAM! By the time you read this we'll know whether England is playing tonight or tomorrow night. But, whoever is regarded as the "man" or "woman" of the match or is awarded the "Golden Boot" in any competition, association football is primarily about teamwork and those who are best at it tend to win the trophies.

The same is true of Christianity. The effective results come when Christians work together using their own particular strengths and talents. The Bible is brutally honest. When two of the prime figures in the development of the early church, Paul and Barnabas, had a falling out the consequences were devastating – you can read the details at the end of Acts 15. Luke, the guy who wrote the book of Acts, goes on, and in just a few sentences describes months and months of the Christian message getting nowhere fast. The teamwork had gone wrong and so did everything else. But God never leaves anyone at a dead end. When they were at their most despondent, Luke, himself, joins the team and suddenly they were back on track, and the good results came thick and fast. Hundreds of years before, Solomon, the wise king of Israel had got it right: "He who isolates himself will quarrel with those who give good advice and the result will be failure" (Proverbs 18.1).

Working together is always better. May the best team win!

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