

# Basketball Prayer

Heavenly Father,

As we prepare to take the court, we acknowledge that we are not nearly as effective apart from you; therefore, we look to you to provide all our needs, including physical protection, necessary skillsets, mental toughness, and proper emotional responses. (John 15:5, Phil. 4:19, Romans 15:5)

First, we thank you for the ability and gifts you've given each athlete to play this game. Help us to be mindful that today's game is a gift within itself. (James 1:17)

We collectively pray against a spirit of complacency, comfort, complaining, selfishness, or division. Guard our mouths so that we use them to speak life into our teammates and coaches; building one another up, never tearing down. (Phil. 2:14, Phil 2:4, James 3:16, Ephesians 4:29)

Father, by your grace, empower us to play with a spirit of unity that demonstrates all pieces working powerfully together. We pray for supernatural wisdom and vision. Give our coaches the wisdom and vision to call the right plays at the right time. Give each player a vision to see every inch of the court, equipping them to make the best and smartest decisions. (1 Cor. 12:12-27, Prov. 2:6, James 1:5)

Lord, as we release our own selfish desires in exchange for your will, help us to engage in this competition with mental toughness, maximum effort, skillful accuracy, and a steadfast endurance. Help us to be an effective teammate, spurring one another on, whether it's on the floor or on the bench. As we do all this, we know we will demonstrate victorious character, no matter how the game ends. Help us to leave the court better players and individuals than when we stepped on. (Gal. 5:24, Matt. 16:24, 2 Tim. 1:7, Phil. 4:13, Hebrew 10:24)

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.



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JESUS AND BASKETBALL

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