

A photograph of a football field. In the foreground, a brown leather football with white laces is positioned on the green grass, slightly to the left of the center. The field has white yard lines. In the background, a large crowd of spectators is visible in the stands, and a yellow goalpost stands on the right side. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting a sunny day.

FAITH & FOOTBALL

Small Group Study Guide

Football Lessons for Life

(*Matthew 7:24–27*)

Opening Icebreaker

- What's one of your favorite sports memories, either playing or watching?
- How does teamwork or coaching in sports remind you of your spiritual life?

Scripture Reading

Read *Matthew 7:24–27* together.

“Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock...”

Sermon Recap

In this message, Pastor David reminded us that:

1. **The Right Foundation** — Your life must be built on Jesus Christ, the Solid Rock.
2. **The Right Position** — God has gifted you, and you need to get in the right position to use your gifts.

3. **The Right Perspective** — God wants to do great things with your life; faith invites you to live wide open.
4. **The Right Conclusion** — Life is short, and one day we'll all stand before Christ. Eternity is too long to be wrong.

Discussion Questions

1. The Right Foundation

- Jesus contrasted the wise man and the foolish man. Both heard His words, but one acted on them.
 - What does it mean in practical terms to build your “house” on the rock of Christ?
 - What are some examples of “sand” foundations people build on today?

2. The Right Position

- Pastor David shared the story of Bo Jackson moving into the right position and thriving.
 - How has God “repositioned” you at some point in life?
 - What spiritual gifts or natural abilities has God given you that can bless others? (See *1 Peter 4:10–11*).

- How can we help each other in this group discover and use our gifts?

3. The Right Perspective

- Faith is not just “run and tackle” repetition; it’s throwing the ball downfield and living wide open for God.
 - How does fear hold us back from living a bold, faith-filled life?
 - What’s one “big play” God may be calling you to attempt in this season?
 - Read *Jeremiah 29:11* and *Daniel 11:32*. What do these verses teach about God’s perspective for your life?

4. The Right Conclusion

- Life is short, and tomorrow is not promised. One day we will stand before Christ.
 - How does the reality of eternity change the way we live today?
 - What area of your life do you sense God calling you to strengthen so your “house” will stand firm in the storm?

Application Challenge

- Identify one area this week where you can “dig deeper” into your foundation in Christ (e.g., prayer, Scripture reading, accountability).
- If you don’t know your spiritual gift, take a step to discover it—by serving, asking trusted believers, or taking a gift inventory.
- Share one “faith step” you want to attempt this month.

Prayer Focus

- Pray that each person would be firmly grounded on the Rock of Christ.
- Ask God to reveal spiritual gifts and positions for each member of the group.
- Pray for boldness to live with God’s perspective, attempting great things and expecting great things.
- Intercede for those not yet saved, that they would come to know Jesus before it’s too late.