

# Super Bowl Sunday - Sunday PM 02/04/18

## Introduction:

Solomon said there is nothing we under the sun. So, it is with the preaching of the Gospel. I don't pretend to preach anything new tonight but to remind us of our duties, obligations, and reward as Christians. Tonight, people will gather around the television to watch the Super Bowl. God's word makes a lot of references to athletics and the Christian life. *1 Corinthians 9.24-27; Hebrews 12.1; 2 Timothy 2.4-5.* The other day I was listening to the radio as the "experts were talking about the Super Bowl and who would win. This got me to thinking about some cliques we often hear but they are true.

### I) To Win You Must Compete

A) **Be eligible to play- there are 30 other teams not playing today because they did not qualify.**

B) **To compete one must first obey the Gospel of Christ.**

1. I have known many people who came to church and heard the Gospel but they never obeyed the Gospel.  
*Hebrews 5.9*
  - a. Hear, Repent, Confess Christ, Be baptized for the remission of sins- God's requirements.
2. Be faithful unto death, *Revelation 2.10.*
  - a. This means we must be living the Christian life, be on the playing field, *Revelation 6.10.*
  - b. We must stand against the devices of the devil.  
*Ephesians 6.11*

### II) To Win You Must Handle Adversity

A) **The team with the least mistakes usually wins.**

1. Not who makes the most spectacular plays but who makes the simple ones.
2. Not turn the ball over, get penalties, and handles their mistakes the best.

**B) As Christians we are going to face “things” in life,**  
*James 1.2-4*

1. You are going to have some bad breaks, disappointments, temptations, etc.
2. How you handle them will determine your success in life.

**III) To Win You Must Play Together**

**A) It's called team work**

1. Notice when someone makes a good play other will celebrate with them; pat them on the back or some other part of the body, or the helmet, or give them a chest bump.
2. When someone makes a mistake the good teams mates will come over and encourage them. We got your back or stay in the game, etc.

**B) The same with Christians. (fellowship) *Galatians 6.2***

1. Celebrate with those who celebrate, *Romans 12.15a*
2. Comfort those who need comforting, *Romans 12.15b.*

**IV) To Win You Must Play To Your Strengths, Not Weaknesses**

**A) The key to winning is to give your players the opportunity to make the plays they can make**

1. Linemen are really good at blocking but they are

terrible wide receivers of ball carriers.

2. Quarter backs are not good at kicking and kickers are generally not good at throwing the ball.

**B) So it is with us in the body of Christ, *1 Corinthians 12.14ff***

1. The hand is really good at picking up things, holding things, turning things, etc.
2. The foot bears our weight and can kick things, etc.
3. The eye is good at depth perception, seeing images, adapting to light, etc.
4. Use what talents your have for the good of the body-singing, praying, teaching, greeting, etc.

**IV) To Win You Must Remember the Goal**

**A) There are perishable crowns --Who won previous Super Bowls? Super Bowl 45? Or 10? Or 6?**

**B) We are competing for an imperishable crown, *1 Corinthians 9.25; 2 Timothy 4.8; 1 Peter 1.3,4***

**Conclusion:**