



PLAYING FOR ETERNITY

How to
Share the Gospel
with The Mission Ball
in 5 easy steps

Before you Begin...

He Began


Remember, you are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God has prepared in advance for you to do.

You are an Ambassador, His Representative, and the Holy Spirit will do the work. If you are available and willing, you can share a message that may impact the soul before you for all of eternity.

Welcome, brother and sister in Christ, to the Greatest of all Commissions.

God's Plan of Salvation
The most important question
will you go to Heaven when
in order to go to Heaven
again." (John 3:7) In the Bible
plan of how to be born again
you are a sinner. "For all have
of God's standard." (Romans
are a sinner, you are
"The wages of sin is death."
(Romans 6:23)
separation from
appointed

Created for a Purpose

A woman with sunglasses and a black headband is holding a soccer ball high in the air with her right hand. She is surrounded by a group of children of various ages, some looking up at the ball. The scene is outdoors with trees in the background. The text is overlaid on a semi-transparent dark band across the middle of the image.

A soccer ball is created on purpose and for a purpose. No one would believe that a soccer ball could create itself, or that it was created by accident. The fact that we have a soccer ball designed with precision, order, text, and colors, proves that the soccer ball was created. The creation (soccer ball) gives evidence of the creator (manufacturer). In the same way we can see precision, order, and beauty in our universe. We see the Sun and stars, the Earth and the Moon, the way nature works, and the land and the sea. We can see and appreciate the complexities of our own body and even the intricacies of our own human eye. We see a creation (universe) that points to a creator (God). Genesis 1:1 says, “In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.” The fact that God is the Creator is stated not only in the first book, but woven throughout the entire Bible. Colossians 1:16 states, “For by Him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible... all things were created through Him and for Him.” Lastly, Revelation 4:11 affirms, “Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created.” A soccer ball can’t create itself or happen by accident; you also are not an accident. Proverbs 16:4 says, “The Lord has made everything for its purpose” which assures us that not only did God create you, but He created you on purpose and for a purpose!

Play by the Rules



Everyone understands that there are rules in soccer. When you break a rule there is a penalty to pay. The penalty may be a direct or indirect kick, or it may be a yellow or red card. In the same way God has established rules for His creation and penalties for breaking these rules. **God's rules can easily be seen in the 10 Commandments.** Once we know the rules, we can see that we have broken God's rules. When we are honest with ourselves we will understand why Romans 3:23 says that "we have all sinned and fallen short of God's perfect standard of holiness." The penalty for breaking God's law can be found in Romans 6:23, "The wages of sin is death." God has created us on purpose and for a purpose and has given us rules to live by to fulfill our purpose. Unfortunately, we have rebelled against God and His standard of goodness and violated His commands.

Because we are guilty of sin we deserve the punishment of death. However, the Good News of the Gospel is that even though we broke God's rules and deserve the penalty God sent His son Jesus to take the penalty we deserve. Romans 5:8 tells us, "but God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." We broke the rules, but God sent His son Jesus to willingly go to the cross and take the punishment we deserve.

Step 3

Fill it Up



As we mentioned before, a soccer ball is created on purpose and for a purpose, just as God created you on purpose and for a purpose. It is also important to realize that the only way a soccer ball can fulfill the purpose it was created for is to be filled up with air. A soccer ball is designed by the manufacturer to be inflated with air in order for it to fulfill the purpose for which it was created. Nobody wants to play with a flat deflated soccer ball. We also must be filled with something in order for us to fulfill our purpose. The “something” is actually a someone called the Holy Spirit. Galatians 4:6 says that “because we are sons, God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts.” Ephesians 5:18 exhorts us to “be filled with the Spirit” and it is only when we are filled with God’s Spirit, the Holy Spirit, that we can fulfill the purpose for which God created us for. Acts 1:8 says that “we will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon us.” A deflated soccer ball is still a soccer ball, but only when it is properly filled does it truly have the power to do what it was designed for! Ephesians 2:10 says, “we are God’s masterpiece”, but unless we are filled with God’s Spirit we will never experience the power of realizing our full potential which is to bring Him the Glory He rightly deserves!

Step 4

Accept the gift

Thousands of Mission Balls have been given away as gifts around the world. People of all ages in many different countries have been given a Mission Ball. Perhaps you received a Mission Ball as a gift, or maybe you received this tract as a gift. The very idea of something being given to you as a gift is that you did not earn it, nor are you forced to accept it simply because it was offered to you. In fact, if a gift is offered, you have the right to accept or reject the gift. That is the nature of a gift. The gift of salvation by God is very similar. Romans 6:23 not only says “the wages of sin is death”, but it goes on to emphasize “the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Even though we have rebelled against God and are due His punishment, God offers us an eternal gift of salvation — a gift that includes forgiveness of sins (1 John 1:9), adoption as a child of God (Ephesians 1:5), and an eternal home with Him in heaven (2 Corinthians 5:1). As is the case with any gift, you must choose to accept or reject the offer of salvation God is making. How can you accept this gift today? Romans 10:9 says, “if you confess with your mouth Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart God raised Him from the dead you will be saved.” Hebrews 3:15 says, “Today, if you hear His voice, do not harden your hearts as in rebellion.” 2 Corinthians 6:2 adds, “Today is the day of salvation”.



Live the Life

It is usually easy to see what a person loves by how they live their life. Someone who loves soccer will usually spend his or her time thinking about soccer, watching soccer, talking about soccer, and playing soccer. They will be occupied with improving their soccer skills and keeping up with their favorite teams and players. They are usually eager to share their love of soccer with anyone who will let them. The same should be expected of a Christian. When you truly understand the Creator's sovereignty and power, realize Christ's holiness and love for you, experience the power of the Holy Spirit filling you, and accept the amazing gift of salvation God offered to you; your life will never be the same. You will live a life reflective of 2 Corinthians 5:17, which says, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold the new has come." When you turn from your sin (repent) and put your trust (faith) in Christ alone, you become a new person and your life should reflect that change. You will no longer love the sins that have ensnared you for so long (Galatians 5:24) and your new life will produce much fruit (John 15:8). Ephesians 2:10 not only says "you are God's masterpiece", but also that you are "created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that you should walk in them." While turning to Christ may only take a moment, walking with Him is a labor of love that produces eternal life.



Blessings to you, and thank you for your willingness to share Jesus Christ.

A handwritten signature in white ink, appearing to read "Torrey Babb".

Torrey Babb