

FAITH BASED WEEKLY HUDDLE VERSES

Twenty Bible Verses and Stories to Match the Season

This section is built to run alongside the twenty weekly culture focuses in the plan.

Each week here pairs a passage of Scripture with a short coaching story that connects it to what your team is already working on that week. It is written for coaches who lead faith-based programs or run an FCA huddle, and it is meant to be optional, not required.

Use it simply. Open your huddle with the verse, share the thought in your own words, and let it point back to the same culture behavior your team is practicing that week. The goal is not a sermon. It is a small, repeated moment that helps your athletes connect who they are becoming on the court to who they are becoming as people...



FAITH BASED WEEKLY HUDDLE VERSES

Week 1 | Goals

Pairs with the Week 1 culture focus from Rapid Teamwork

Verse: Proverbs 29:18 (NIV) “Where there is no revelation, people cast off restraint; but blessed is the one who heeds wisdom’s instruction.”

Coach's Thought

The first thing a team needs is not a play. It is a direction. When your athletes cannot see where the season is headed, they drift toward their own version of it, and drift always beats hustle. Use this week to say out loud what you are building and why it matters beyond the scoreboard. When the group knows the destination, the daily grind stops feeling random and starts feeling like a step toward something worth chasing.

Week 2 | Relationships

Pairs with the Week 2 culture focus from What Effective Leaders DO

Verse: 1 Corinthians 12:12 (NIV) “Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ.”

Coach's Thought

A team is not a collection of talented parts. It is one body that only works when every part is seen and valued. The kid at the end of the bench matters as much to the whole as your leading scorer. This week is about learning one real thing about each athlete that has nothing to do with their sport, because the athlete who believes you see them as a person will give you effort no scheme can produce.

Week 3 | Relationships

Pairs with the Week 3 culture focus from DISC Animal Styles

Verse: Romans 12:4 (NIV) “For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function,”

Coach's Thought

Not everyone on your roster is wired the same, and that is a gift, not a problem. One athlete leads loud, another leads quiet, another just does the work and never says a word. When your team learns that different does not mean wrong, frustration turns into understanding. Teach them how each teammate is built this week, and watch how quickly they stop trying to change each other and start using each other.

Week 4 | Relationships and Expectations

Pairs with the Week 4 culture focus from Rapid Teamwork

Verse: Philippians 2:4 (NIV) “Not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.”

Coach's Thought

The strongest teams are made of athletes who pay attention to what their teammates need. This week, give your players a structured way to tell each other how they work best and what they need to succeed. It sounds small, but it moves the group from guessing to knowing. When athletes look out for one another on purpose instead of by accident, the whole roster starts rowing in the same direction.

Week 5 | Expectations

Pairs with the Week 5 culture focus from 10 Commandments of Winning Teammates

Verse: Habakkuk 2:2 (NIV) “Then the LORD replied: ‘Write down the revelation and make it plain on tablets so that a herald may run with it.’”

Coach's Thought

A standard nobody wrote down is a standard nobody remembers. This week you turn the preseason identity into a team covenant your athletes helped build, so it belongs to them and not just to you. Write it plainly. Make it visible. The standards that actually govern behavior are the ones the group agreed to out loud, because now holding the line is not you against them. It is the team keeping a promise it made to itself.

Week 6 | Expectations

Pairs with the Week 6 culture focus from 10 Commandments of Winning Teammates

Verse: **1 Corinthians 12:18** (NIV) “But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be.”

Coach's Thought

Every athlete wants to know their role matters, especially the ones who are not starting. Role players quit on teams when nobody tells them where they fit and why it counts. This week, define what each role looks like and honor the ones that never show up in a box score. A team where every part knows its purpose is a team that does not fracture when the minutes get tight.

Week 7 | Expectations and Accountability

Pairs with the Week 7 culture focus from Staying Coachable

Verse: **James 1:22** (NIV) “Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.”

Coach's Thought

Your athletes are always watching whether the standard applies to you too. The fastest way to lose a locker room is to hold a line you will not walk yourself. This week, model the standard out loud, and when you fall short of it, own it in front of the team. A coach who admits a mistake does not lose authority. He gives every athlete permission to be honest about their own, and honesty is where growth starts.

Week 8 | Expectations and Thanks

Pairs with the Week 8 culture focus from Sticky 11

Verse: **1 Thessalonians 5:11** (NIV) “Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.”

Coach's Thought

Vague praise feels nice for a day. Specific praise builds culture, because it shows everyone watching exactly which behavior earned it. This week, catch the standard being met and name it in front of the whole group. Point to the athlete, point to the behavior, and explain why it matters. What you celebrate publicly, you get more of. Build people up on purpose and you will not have to beg for the behaviors you want.

Week 9 | Accountability

Pairs with the Week 9 culture focus from What Effective Leaders DO

Verse: Proverbs 27:17 (NIV) “As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.”

Coach's Thought

The hardest conversation you are avoiding is usually the one your team most needs you to have. Iron does not sharpen iron gently, and the surest way to lose your best athletes is to let a problem slide because the talk felt uncomfortable. This week, have the one hard conversation you have been putting off. Do it with care and clarity, not anger. The friction of an honest word is what keeps a good team from going soft.

Week 10 | Accountability

Pairs with the Week 10 culture focus from 10 Commandments of Winning Teammates

Verse: Ecclesiastes 4:9 (NIV) “Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor.”

Coach's Thought

A culture that only survives when the coach is watching is a fragile one. The strongest teams police themselves, because the athletes hold each other to the standard when no whistle is around. This week, build peer accountability so the standard does not live and die with you. Two athletes holding each other up will always outlast one coach trying to carry all of it alone.

Week 11 | Accountability and Coachability

Pairs with the Week 11 culture focus from Staying Coachable

Verse: Proverbs 12:1 (NIV) “Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge, but whoever hates correction is stupid.”

Coach's Thought

The athletes who plateau are rarely the ones short on talent. They are the ones who stop being coachable, who guard their ego instead of chasing the next play. This week, teach your team to let go of the last mistake and lock into the next one. The willingness to be corrected is not weakness. It is the single trait that separates the athletes who keep growing from the ones who quietly stall out.

Week 12 | Accountability and Relationships

Pairs with the Week 12 culture focus from Rapid Teamwork

Verse: **Galatians 6:2** (NIV) "Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."

Coach's Thought

Mid-season is when cliques harden and the quiet athletes start to disappear. The grind pulls people apart unless somebody actively pulls them back together. This week, do an honest pulse check on how connected the team really feels, and carry the load for the athlete who is struggling. A team that shares the weight of a hard stretch comes out the other side closer. A team that ignores it comes out fractured.

Week 13 | Thanks

Pairs with the Week 13 culture focus from Sticky 11

Verse: **Colossians 3:23** (NIV) "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters,"

Coach's Thought

Some of the most important work on your team never shows up in the stat sheet. The athlete who sets the hard screen, dives for the loose ball, and never asks for credit is holding your culture together. This week, give one specific, sincere thank-you to a player whose work usually goes unseen. People do not leave teams where they feel genuinely valued, and the unseen worker most needs to hear that you see them.

Week 14 | Accountability and Thanks

Pairs with the Week 14 culture focus from Rapid Teamwork

Verse: **Philippians 3:14** (NIV) "I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."

Coach's Thought

By late season, athletes lose sight of why the hard days matter. The legs are tired and the goal feels far away. This week, reconnect the daily grind to the bigger vision you set back in preseason. Remind them how far they have come and what they are still pressing toward. When athletes remember the prize they are chasing, the same drill that felt like punishment in February starts to feel like preparation again.

Week 15 | Relationships and Thanks

Pairs with the Week 15 culture focus from Connection Cards

Verse: **John 15:13** (NIV) "Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends."

Coach's Thought

The teams that finish strong are the ones that still genuinely like each other in the hardest stretch of the year. Winning teammates lay something down for each other, their time, their ego, their comfort. This week, create one moment of real connection away from competition, where the athletes are people first and players second. Those moments are not a break from the work. They are the glue that makes the work hold together when it matters most.

Week 16 | Accountability

Pairs with the Week 16 culture focus from Rapid Teamwork

Verse: **Hebrews 12:11** (NIV) "No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it."

Coach's Thought

Effort is the one thing entirely within an athlete's control, and it is the thing a team can most honestly hold each other to. This week, ask the group to define what leaving it all out there actually looks like, then hold them to their own words. When the team sets the standard for maximum effort together, they stop playing for the coach and start playing for each other. That is the effort that carries a season into its final stretch.

Week 17 | Thanks

Pairs with the Week 17 culture focus from Winning Teammates

Verse: **1 Thessalonians 5:18** (NIV) "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

Coach's Thought

The last message an athlete carries into the offseason is the one that sticks with them longest. This week, recognize every player for one specific way they made this team better. Not a blanket thank-you to the group, but a personal word to each one. Gratitude given individually tells an athlete they mattered here, that their contribution was seen and named. That is the memory they carry, and it is the reason they come back ready to give more.

Week 18 | Reflection

Pairs with the Week 18 culture focus from List of 67 Reflection Questions

Verse: **Lamentations 3:40** (NIV) "Let us examine our ways and test them, and let us return to the LORD."

Coach's Thought

A season you never reflect on is a season you cannot learn from. This week, run an honest debrief on what your culture got right and where it fell short. Your athletes will be more honest than you expect if you ask well and actually listen. Examining the road you just traveled is not dwelling on the past. It is how a team turns a hard year into wisdom and a good year into a foundation.

Week 19 | Reflection

Pairs with the Week 19 culture focus from Staying Coachable

Verse: **Proverbs 9:9** (NIV) "Instruct the wise and they will be wiser still; teach the righteous and they will add to their learning."

Coach's Thought

The best coaches stay coachable themselves. Before the details fade, capture your own lessons from this season, the calls you would make again and the ones you would take back. The willingness to be sharpened does not stop at the roster. It starts with you. A coach who keeps growing gives every athlete permission to do the same, and a program led by a learner never runs out of room to improve.

Week 20 | Goals

Pairs with the Week 20 culture focus from Rapid Teamwork

Verse: **Jeremiah 29:11** (NIV) "'For I know the plans I have for you,' declares the LORD, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.'"

Coach's Thought

Culture compounds when it carries over. This week, before the season fully closes, plant the seed for next year with the athletes who are returning. The players who understood this year's standard are the ones who will teach it to the newcomers. Point them toward the future you are building together. The plans you set now, spoken to the ones who will carry them, are what turn a single good season into a program that lasts.