Church is a lot like Football, on: 2006/1/24 12:37

Most everyone here knows I am a football coach. (If you don't... I'm a football coach) Anyway, I saw this and saw some humor and conviction in this. Hope everyone gets something out of this... Krispy

**Benchwarmer:** Show up on Sunday eleven o'clock sharp and leave twelve o'clock dull. They do not sing, pray, work, and apparently do nothing but take up pew space.

**Sidelines:** where lukewarm Christians always are.

**Running back:** one who is unafraid to meet the opponent head on by faithfully proclaiming the truth of God's Word.

**Linebacker:** one who defends the faith against all attacks.

**Back Judge:** one who only criticizes and never gets in the game.

**Nose tackle:** method the pastor's wife uses to try and keep church gossip to a minimum.

**Assistant coach:** an associate pastor.

**Stiff Arm:** do not lay hands on anyone quickly.

**Off-season:** summer vacation when church attendance falls off.

**Overtime:** sermon continues past noon.

**Coin toss:** taking up an offering.

**Pigskin:** smoked ham at the church potluck dinner.

**Punt:** point in the sermon where due to lack of response from the congregation, the pastor veers off-course from his sermon in desperation to regain the attention of the people.

**Punt return:** congregation's response to pastor's punt.

**Defensive holding:** gripping the back of the pew in front of you when under conviction.

**Delay of game:** method special singers employ when their performance track is not cued to correct song.

**Offensive guard:** persons who are constantly looking for something to be offended by.

**Quick count:** estimate of Sunday attendance.

**Dead ball:** awkward silence during the sermon in which pastor is pausing for an amen, which he never receives.

**Roster:** official list of church members whether they are currently attending or not attending.

**Excessive timeouts:** crying babies interrupting the service numerous times.

**Eligible receiver:** a faithful servant of the Lord who can be trusted to do the work of the ministry.

**Unnecessary roughness:** where gossiping has become a spiritual gift.

**Formation:** with whom we gather with in the foyer after the service has ended.
Signals: silent communication between the worship leader and the guy manning the sound board.

20 Second Time Out: pastor hasn't prepared effectively to preach the Word of God on Sunday. Therefore, he extends a time of corporate prayer and singing that he claims is led by the Spirit, so that only ten minutes is left in the actual service time. He then uses remaining moments for congregational testimonials as an expression of encouraging one another. He concludes by saying, "I guess we're out of time today, we'll have to pick up the text again next week... but hasn't the fellowship been sweet this morning?"

Field Goal: getting at least something out of a poorly prepared sermon.

Safety: proof that no one on the elder board had your pastor's "back."

Touchdown: preaching the gospel in all its truth and seeing a non-Christian come to Christ for salvation, or a believer repent of their waywardness in sanctification.

Special teams: church committees and home fellowship groups.

Scrimmage: informal meeting of a "special team."

Extra Point: when you thought that the pastor said, "now in conclusion" at least twenty minutes ago.

Fumble: when the minister mispronounces a key word or O.T. name in his message, quotes the wrong verse, or theologically misspeaks and everyone notices.

Penalty Flag: when a member of the church acts like a faithful Berean in confronting the pastor(s) when something unbiblical was preached and affirmed.

Game ball: the Bible.

Home-field advantage: where long-time attendees think they are entitled to sit when newcomers show up.

Dime back: giving a tenth of your income.

Huddle: Meeting of the elders and pastoral staff.

Head coach: the pastor.

Reverse: a former Arminian who is now Reformed.

Too many men on the field: congregational rule.

Interference: when pragmatics captures the hearts of some of the members absent of sound doctrine—methods vs. message.

Incompletion: John Mark.

Unsportsmanlike conduct: when tolerated undisciplined sin manifests itself.

Winning percentage: sanctification is daily occurring.

Quarterback Sneak: when the pastor makes a move that the elders and deacons weren't prepared for.

Draw Play: what children do with the church bulletin during worship.

Half-time: the period between Sunday School and the main worship service where many choose to leave.

Backfield-in-Motion/Man in Motion: too many restroom or water fountain runs during the service.
Staying in the Pocket: what happens to a lot of money that should be given to the Lord's work.

Two-minute Warning: the point at which you realize the sermon is almost over, but it somehow goes on for another half an hour.

Instant Replay: the minister forgets his notes and falls back on last week's sermon.

Sudden Death: what happens to a church where sin is tolerated.

Trap: you're called on to pray the benediction and sleep through your cue.

End Run: taking the long way around a difficult situation.

Flex Defense: the ability to allow absolutely nothing said during the sermon to affect your life.

Halfback Option: the decision of 75% of the congregation not to return for the evening service.

Screen Play: using video and PowerPoint as part of your Sunday morning worship.

Blitz: the rush to the parking lot to get to the restaurant first following the closing prayer.

**Re: Church is a lot like Football - posted by four4Him (), on: 2006/1/24 13:23**
-Coach,

-Thanks for giving us this glossary of terms. I'm grateful that my congregation hasn't penalized me for repeatedly going into "overtime".. :-)  
-Keep reaching for the "goal," brother...

**Re: Church is a lot like Football - posted by lovejt (), on: 2006/1/24 18:56**
I was told there was a hymn written in the 70s about football/jesus to continue the football analogy. I've never heard this. Have you? 
I like the first line of the chorus and the last line of V3. :) -j

The song is called 'Dropkick me Jesus' by Paul Craft (copywrite 1976 Screen Gems-Emi Music INC.)

(CHORUS)
Drop-kick me Jesus through the goalpoles of life, 
end over end, neither left or right 
straight on through those righteous uprights 
Drop-kick me Jesus through the goalpoles of life.

Verse 1
A lowly bench warmer I'm willing to be 
until the time when you have need for me 
to flash on your scoreboard that shines from on high the big superbowl way up there in the sky.

Verse 2
Bring on my brothers who've gone on before 
and all of my sisters who've knocked on your door 
and all of the departed dear loved ones of mine 
stick 'em up front in the offensive line
Verse 3
Make me, O make me, Lord, more that I am.
Make me a piece of your master game plan.
Free from the tempest far down below
I've got the will, Lord. You've got the toe.

Re: Church is a lot like Football - posted by dohzman (), on: 2006/1/24 22:47
That's cute :-) I like it! :-) I think I'll add it to my collection of note worthy notes.

Re: - posted by Tears_of_joy, on: 2006/1/25 4:18
Something more about football...
"One hundred religious persons knit into a unity by careful organization do no constitute a church any more than eleven dead men make a football team. The first requisite is life, always."
-A. W. Tozer

Re: - posted by MrBillPro (), on: 2006/1/25 12:44
Superbowl - One who has played the game right and gets the crown in glory. :-) 

Re: - posted by PreachParsly (), on: 2006/1/25 12:50
I'm just wondering who is the waterboy?

Re:, on: 2006/1/25 13:08

Quote:
-------------------------
I'm just wondering who is the waterboy?
-------------------------

Robert "Bobby" Boucher Jr. (pronounced Boo-shay)

Krispy

Re: Church is a lot like Football, on: 2006/1/27 17:31
Krispy,
Thanks for posting the similarities between football and church. I enjoyed it and passed it on to my brother who wants to post it on his blog. :-) 

It was good to see that you can get some spiritual insight out of football. :-P

Re: - posted by philologos (), on: 2006/1/27 17:48
There's a cynical definition of English football which might translate to the American?

15000 people desperately in need of exercise watching 11 people desperately in need of a rest.
Re: - posted by IRONMAN (), on: 2006/1/27 22:06

Quote:
----------------------------------------
philo logos wrote:
There's a cynical definition of English football which might translate to the American?
15000 thousand people desperately in need of exercise watching 11 people desperately in need of a rest.
----------------------------------------

rolling with laughter...that's straight up hilarious bro Ron

Re: - posted by dohzman (), on: 2006/1/27 22:13

:-) what a wonderful sense of humor, I think I'll also place that one in my book of quotable quotes :-)

Re:, on: 2006/1/28 0:23

I got an email tonite, that Ron's 'right-on-riot' post reminded me of ... See if you see it too ... relating it also to The Church.

(May not be about 'Football', but then again, maybe that's where they were headed :)

Quote:
----------------------------------------
A tour bus driver is driving with a bus load of seniors down a highway when he is tapped on his shoulder by a little old lady. She offers him a handful of peanuts, which he gratefully munches up.

After about 15 minutes, she taps him on his shoulder again and she hands him another handful of peanuts. She repeats this gesture about five more times.

When she is about to hand him another batch he asks the little old lady why they don't eat the peanuts themselves.

"We can't chew them because we've no teeth", she replied.

The puzzled driver asks,
"Why do you buy them then?"
The old lady replied,
"We just love the chocolate around them."
----------------------------------------

Re: - posted by lovejt (), on: 2006/2/1 11:46

Man...i found a link to that actual Football hymn. Just had to share it with yous before the big game. hehe ;)

http://bertc.com/dropkick.htm

blessings,

:-]

Re:Church & Football ?, on: 2006/2/5 17:16

Looka here now ...

We moved from the spiritually cold territory of New England to the "Belt Buckle of The Bible Belt" thinking, Wow, Look at ALLLLL of these Churches ... only to find out, that these BIG Churches down yonder here, change the time of their monthly Communion Service to ACCOMMODATE TONITE'S SUPERBALL.

Edited to add more Bible Belt Specials for today.
An even larger "Church" is having the Game and a Party there tonite, 'instead of' a Service.
General Topics :: Church is a lot like Football

Praise God and pass the pretzels.

That's it, I give up. :-? :-P :-( :-?

Re: posted by PTywama3 (), on: 2006/2/5 23:20

Quote:
-------------------------We moved from the spiritually cold territory of New England to the "Belt Buckle of The Bible Belt" thinking. Wow, Look at ALLLL of these Churches ... only to find out, that these BIG Churches down yonder here, change the time of their monthly Communion Service to ACCOMMODATE TONITE'S SUPERBALL.

Edited to add more Bible Belt Specials for today.
An even larger "Church" is having the Game and a Party there tonite, 'instead of' a Service.
Praise God and pass the pretzels.
-------------------------

God forbid, ma'am, that Christ ever pick up a child instead of preaching the good word. Never mind that millions of people will be sitting together discussing a game in a way that rarely ever happens other than the thirty minutes after the sermon. Of course the fact that it had probably gone on for four and a half to five hours really doesn't discount that fellowship is supposed to be a good thing.

Aw, heck, let's throw down the gauntlet. I now proclaim sex to be horribly anti-biblical because anything uttered during such a period will most adamantly not be for God!

This is silly. Tradition is silly and stupid. Church timing is just as much a tradition as the superbowl. To condemn the act of pacing a service for an internationally renowned event really is egotistical. Its like saying that we shouldn't have listed the radio to the radio after 9/11. And I say phooey.

I'm sorry, Krispy, this was a wonderful thread, but I'm afeared the lightness and humor of it has been awkwardly turned. I do thank you for your efforts.

Re:, on: 2006/2/5 23:49

PTywama3, I watched one SuperBowl since I've been saved.

Guess which one it was?

Well, if it was playing at that same Church as usual, then the whole Church saw Janet Jackson too ... besides the 'commercial' and the cheer leaders and the other half-time stuff, that really fits into the House of God quite well, right?

Do you also think those commercials are something "Christ" would give a "child" or the half-time shows or the other non-game activities?

Do you really think "Jesus" would bring little children there or turn the tube on for them to see it all?

Do you think all of these non-game things I've brought up, is Jesus' idea of what HE called "Fellowship"?

And if the elderly members of that other Church couldn't make the morning service today, then they didn't get to hear, that no one would be there for Communion Service at the time they'll be getting there to an empty parking lot.

I really don't know why you're so upset friend.

I could see if I blasphemed the Lord or something ... but come on now ... Football?
I understand Krispy's post, but not this one PTywama3. This is very confusing. :-(

Re:, on: 2006/2/6 17:02
Whoa whoa... hold on everyone. Let's set a few things right side up again, shall we?

First of all... the Carolina Panthers should have won that Super Bowl where the Janet Jackson thing happened, and that game is still a sore subject w/me. (I live in in North Carolina)

All I can say is thank the Lord Mick Jagger didn't have a ward robe malfunction! I think I would have seen my chicken wings for the second time if that had happened!

Seriously tho... that church that was stupid enough to not turn the tube OFF when Janet hit the stage got what they deserved. We missed the whole thing because God gave us enough discernment to realize that if the half time show was produced by MTV... it doesn't need to be seen!

Now, as to moving communion services: most churches have communion in the morning service because their are more people in attendance. Sice the game is a night game... I dont think too many communion services got re-scheduled.

Evening services may have been changed... but so what? There weren't evening services until the invention of the light bulb some 120 years or so ago. Evening services started as an evangelistic tool to "lure" unbelievers to church out of curiosity about the light bulb! Now-a-days people act like there's a command to have evening services buried somewhere in the book of Philemon!

We dont have evening services because we try to keep Sunday as a day of rest. Having 2 services makes Sunday ANYTHING BUT a day of rest.

Football is great, I love it. I coach it. I live it. It's a great way to teach young men about life, teamwork, work ethics, etc.

There is nothing wrong with believers watching the Super Bowl. And surprisingly... the commercials were very clean last night. There was one advertiser that I knew would be a little "busty"... and since we have Tivo, we blipped right thru them.

Great game last night... just wish the Carolina Panthers were there. Next year will be their time!

Krispy

Re:, on: 2006/2/6 17:42
Just for the record ... I was rootin' for the Panthers for the same reason ... :-P
... but I don't do the cat make-up and I'm not Roman about the whole thing.

I've got nothing against "Football" ... but you NEED Tivo to watch it around kids anymore. For that matter ... around anyone with a pure mind, or who wants to keep it pure anyhow.

I'll have to find out if that big ol' Church has Tivo.

I don't have Tivo, but if the Panthers were in the Superbowl, I could have had someone tape it for me and pause out the commercials and stuff ... and just see the game. But....

Anyhowz ... so now, are we still friends Coach?
BTW, what took you so long to find this post of mine? HA!
Can't say I didn't "warn" you.  8-)

Re: - posted by PTywama3 (), on: 2006/2/7 3:43
Forgive me, some of this needs response.

Quote:  
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Do you also think those commercials are something "Christ" would give a "child" or the half-time shows or the other non-game activities?  
------------------------------------------

Yes, I did hear one advertisement that stuck out poorly this year.

As a response: no, I'm not so sure Christ would invite a child to sit with him and watch the game, but I'm pretty sure he would have walked into a pub and watched it with the guys.  I'd bet on that with my life.

Quote:  
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Do you think all of these non-game things I've brought up, is Jesus' idea of what HE called "Fellowship"?  
------------------------------------------

Quite honestly, I don't think you've addressed the concept of "fellowship" at all.  You've addressed censorship a great deal.  That is why I'm upset.  Your concern has as much coverage over CNN, Christmas, and poker night as it does the Superbowl.  The criticism was illegitimately placed, and in my view almost completely unrelated.

As far as the cheerleaders go, I think it far worse for a kid to be introduced to swimming lessons.  I once was told to study a young woman's legs while attempting to learn the kick part of the sidestroke.  What an interesting yet completely legitimate turn of events, no?  Somehow, this is better than watching a game full of physicality and struggle.

And for Krispy: ESPN produced an article that said officiating could have cost the Seahawks 11 points that game... yeah, I think I might know whatcha mean.

As a side note, did anyone else think Mic Jagger performed down near his worst?

Re:, on: 2006/2/7 8:31

Quote:  
------------------------------------------
Anyhowz ... so now, are we still friends Coach?  
------------------------------------------

Just cuz we disagree doesn't mean we aint friends! My wife and I disagree all the time... and I still think she is hot!

Krispy
Re:, on: 2006/2/7 8:33

Quote:
-------------------------
I'm pretty sure he would have walked into a pub and watched it with the guys.
-------------------------

Amen...

Quote:
-------------------------
ESPN produced an article that said officiating could have cost the Seahawks 11 points that game...
-------------------------

The officiating was horrible all thru the playoffs this year. Especially the game between Pittsburg and Denver!

Quote:
-------------------------
did anyone else think Mic Jagger performed down near his worst?
-------------------------

Was there ever a time that performed well in his "career"? Who told him he could sing???

Krispy

Re:, on: 2006/2/7 8:35

Quote:
-------------------------
but you NEED Tivo to watch it around kids anymore.
-------------------------

Tivo is awesome. And we usually start watching games 30 minutes after they start specifically so we can fast forward thru the commercials.

Other than sports we dont watch much TV other than educational shows. (We homeschool) There was a great documentary on PBS last night about Bonhoeffer.

Krispy

Re:, on: 2006/2/7 22:49

Quote:
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KrispyKrittr wrote:

Quote:
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but you NEED Tivo to watch it around kids anymore.
-------------------------

Tivo is awesome. And we usually start watching games 30 minutes after they start specifically so we can fast forward thru the commercials.

Other than sports we dont watch much TV other than educational shows. (We homeschool) There was a great documentary on PBS last night about Bonhoeffer.

Krispy

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Glad we're still N.C. brethren/friends.

You have 4 children, right? And a gorgeous wife.

I remember ..., that was the thread where we met last year.

Remember, I called you sister? I'm lucky I lived through that one .. but we hit it off from there.

Terrific! Praise God for your wife and you home schooling.

I'm with ya on the T.V. stuff.

While I was off line for 3 mo.s, I got so bored, I turned the thing on, after I dusted it off, plugged it in and adjusted the rabbit ears .. haaaaaa.

Now that I'm back on line, I only watch one show now and then. It's educational for me. If I had cable or something more than rabbit ears, I'd be tempted with the HGTV station.

Well, this was a fun thread after all. Thank you for being understanding.

Can't say I agree with the Jesus in the Pub stuff, HA ... but then again ... I'm still growing.

Who knows, maybe I'll join Him there someday. 8-)

Re:Jesus in a Sports Bar., on: 2006/2/7 23:52

Now wait a minute.

I tried ... I even signed off and sat staring at the monitor for a while, but I just can't see it.

I'm sorry guys, I really did try, but I just can't see it. And what would He say about Jager? Oh my. Guess I'm on the outter bounds again. I'm out of the league. I'm benched. I've fumbled the ball for the last time. I'm finis hed.