

The Christian Coach

Every growing boy or girl has certain needs in his/her life as they grow and develop. The Bible tells us in Luke 2:52 that “Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.” Notice that “Jesus increased.” It would be a great disaster if every person stopped developing at age thirteen or fourteen. But “Jesus increased.”

I heard a preacher say from the pulpit that when he left home to serve his military time that he thought his dad was a know-nothing old fogey, but by the time he returned home he realized that his dad was almost a genius! When my oldest son was thirteen years of age, suddenly he knew almost everything! I jokingly told a friend of mine after he had asked me a difficult question to please ask my son, that he knew a lot more than I did. The man laughed and said, “Yeah, I have a teen-age son, too!”

Yes, every boy and girl has needs as he/she approaches adulthood. They need godly parents, a courageous pastor, firm teachers, and a Christian coach. To the athlete, the latter may be the most important person in his life. A coach is frequently more influential than anyone else in the young athlete’s life. Pastors and Christian school administrators realize more than anyone else the enormous power that can be wielded by a coach. However, it is of the utmost importance that the coach himself realize how truly influential he or she is.

Remember, you don’t merely coach a sport, you coach people. It is less about the x’s and o’s and more about the Jill’s and Joe’s!