

Credit the Assist

(Philippians 2:1-4)

- Introduction:
1. On several occasions, the inspired apostle Paul used sports to teach spiritual lessons.
 - a. Boxing (1 Corinthians 9:26).
 - b. Running (1 Corinthians 9:24).
 - c. Athletics in general (2 Timothy 2:5).
 2. I'd like to follow Paul's lead and use a practice in sports that illustrates an important spiritual truth.

I. Practices That Bring Glory To Self

- A. There are a number of antics that athletes go through when they do something successfully, none of which we would say demonstrate humility.
 1. 1974 - Billy "White Shoes" Johnson.
 2. 1983 - Mark Gastineau.
 3. 2005 - Jersey Popping.
 4. 2011 - Patty Mills and "3 point goggles."
 5. 2015 - Devin Booker "Reloading."
- B. While all these activities either draw attention to oneself, or taunt the opponent, there was another practice that doesn't draw nearly as much attention, but is worthy of imitation.
- C. During the 1960's & 1970's, John Wooden and Dean Smith - "Bobby Jones Rule."

II. Think of Biblical People Who Needed To Give Thanks For The Assist

- A. The Possessed Man & Jesus.
 1. (Mark 5:1-20).
- B. Paul & Barnabas.
 1. (Acts 9:26-27).
- C. Philemon & Paul
 1. (Philemon 17-19).
- D. Apollos and Aquilla & Priscilla
 1. (Acts 18:24-28).
- E. You & ???

- Conclusion:
1. Learn to "credit the assist."
 2. "Point" to the person who has helped you become who you are.
 3. Do not cease to give thanks and remember in your prayers those who have blessed your lives.
 4. (Ephesians 1:16).