## Who is the Most Important Person on the Team?

Baseball season started a few days ago. Anyone here a baseball fan? What teams do you root for?

Here is another question, who is your favorite baseball player? How many of you would admit that you couldn't name ONE baseball player? A lot of us.

I thought about how you would track the most popular player in America and I think I found a way. You look at who sales the most jerseys to fans. Last year the most sold major league jersey was of Aaron Judge of the New York Yankees. In addition to selling the most jerseys he also garnered the most votes from fans for the All Star game. That might not make him the most popular but you can make a good case that he might be at least one of the most popular.

Aaron Judge was a rookie outfielder last year for the Yankees. Many would argue that he was the most important person on that team. He had an amazing season setting records and leading the Yankees into the major league playoffs. Yet do you know who won the World Series last year? It wasn't the Yankees. They didn't even get there. The Houston Astro's beat them 4 games to none in the American League Championship to advance to and ultimately win the World Series.

So, the most popular player in the league and some would argue the best player in the league, could not deliver a championship for his team. Why? Because it takes a team not a star to win a championship.

You can argue all day long who you think is the most important person on the team is but if the least talented on the team doesn't do their part the whole team suffers. Even the star player! Every player, coach, manager and all the support staff MUST do their part for the team to win. Star players help but it takes a team to win a championship.

So, what does that have to do with today's offering? We want you to know that we value every gift not simply the large gifts. In fact most our gifts are not large gifts. Yet the faithfulness of each person here doing their part as God directs them fuels ALL our work here. We believe that what all of us give together is greater than what a few of us could give. It takes a team of generous people to assure we have the finances to do all the missions and ministry we do here.

Some here have been financially blessed and can give dollar wise more than others. Yet the smallest gift given as God directs counts just as much towards helping us be fully funded as the large gift. We value every gift because we know that every gift matters.

So, this morning large or small, let's give as God directs each of us. Your participation through giving WILL fuel our mission of changing the world for Christ!