

You Are a Winner!

Anyone here excited that it is football season? Lots of you. OK, at the risk of starting a fight who are you cheering for on Saturday's? How about on Sunday's? We are a house divided it seems.

Have you ever wondered how much it costs to play football? I looked that up and found some staggering results. Listen to this...

- The average NFL team is valued at over \$2 billion dollars!
- \$300 million is the estimated cost yearly to run an NFL team.
- Top college teams spend between \$100 million to almost \$200 million a year.
- Most High School teams spend only a few thousand dollars a year.
- Parents whose kids play sports spend on average \$671 to put their kids on the team.
- 1 in 5 parents spend over \$1,000 yearly per child to put their kids on a team.

None of the above includes ticket prices, food, clothing, gambling or the money spent traveling to a game. Football in America is a multi-billion-dollar enterprise!

Can you remember what your favorite team's record was five years ago? Few could. So, we spend all this money for something that brings us only temporary pleasure. Don't get me wrong I love football. Yet what joy and satisfaction I get from it is fleeting depending upon the outcome of this week's games. Sometimes your team wins and sometimes they lose. Even Alabama and New England lose games. Every time there is a winner there is also a loser.

Here at YOUR CHURCH NAME we put together a "team" that plays for keeps. Our task is not to win some trophy that will ultimately tarnish or perish. We exist, STATE YOUR VISION STATEMENT OR SAY, to build the Kingdom of God here in our community and around the world. Our "wins" often can't be seen with the human eye but they are wins none the less. We win every time we show the love of Christ. Every time you give here you help us make a difference in the lives of men, women, boys and girls. That is winning!

So, today, despite what your favorite team did yesterday or today you can be a winner by giving to help support our eternal life changing mission! As we take up the offering we encourage you as you are led by God to give to His winning team! Your gift today makes you a winner!