

A Basketball Prayer

Almighty God, You who are called the "Great Referee," in this game of life, we are unsure as to what uniform we should wear;

While we may be *Angels* in spirit, in reality we are *Giants* in pride, *Dodgers* of responsibility and *Tigers* in ambition;

When it comes to faith, we find ourselves in the minor leagues;

When it comes to good works, we continue to commit violations or fouls;

When it comes to knowledge of Your word, we are not even sure of the game rules;

Therefore, we are thankful for Your mercy when we commit turnovers; for Your forgiveness when we commit one personal foul after another; for Your uplifting spirit when we are in the pitfalls of a shooting slump;

We ask You to let our actions never be out-of-bounds; may our turnovers and fouls be few and our recoveries quick;

When we score a goal remind us what we owe our teammates who passed us the ball; when our passes are intercepted let us strive to improve our aim;

Teach us to prize an honest defeat, above a dishonest victory;

Oh God, let our game plan be Your will and our response a sell-out crowd with standing room only;

And, when our number is retired here on earth, may we have played the game so that in Your scorebook, we may be included in Your "Hall-of-Fame" and hear You say: "Well Done Good and Faithful Servant."

In the name of Him who gives the final victory to all who believe, Christ Our Lord.

Amen