

Heart of a Coach – December 2013



Name: Taylor Phipps
Hometown: Cedar Falls, IA
Alma Mater: Central College, Pella, IA
Degree(s): Exercise Science / Physical Education
Coaches: Des Moines North Basketball & Football



List your chosen attribute: Love

What is your personal definition of this word?

Love is a choice that I make every day. I can only do that because *“He first loved us”*. Being a servant and putting others first are at the forefront of Love. Kindness, Humility, and Patience are other words I would use to define “Love”.

What are some of your favorite quotes from other people about this word?

“Love covers a multitude of sins.” - 1 Peter 4:8

“Every player’s job is to love their teammates, and every coach’s job to love every player” – Unknown

“Treat people the same way you want them to treat you” – Matthew 7:12

What is your favorite Biblical passage that deals with this characteristic?

John 15:9-25 Jesus commands us to love others the same way that He loved us.

Why did you choose that particular passage?

We are commanded to follow the example that Jesus gave us. Unconditionally, and sacrificially loving others. I want people to recognize a difference in the way that I Coach, it has to be consistent and happen on a daily basis. God has given me some awesome opportunities to “Be like Jesus” to athletes and coaches.

Please give an application/example of this word in your life.

Working in education has given me an awesome opportunity to interact and develop relationships with kids. Through these relationships I can encourage them, challenge them, and love them in different ways. Giving rides before or after practice, going through McDonalds and buying a kid a sandwich, or building them up even when it’s hard.

How do you apply this word in your sport?

Basketball, like most sports, is demanding: physically, mentally, and spiritually. There are definitely times when I struggle to know what the best way to “Love” a kid is....or the call an official makes. But in the end I trust that God will give me the wisdom to handle whatever the situation may be. Bringing a positive influence to every practice and trying to get some type of personal interaction with every player is something I strive for on a daily basis.

How did you become involved in FCA?

Some friends from church invited me to the Banquet/Dinner a couple years ago and I began to learn more about the FCA ministry and people involved. Made some contacts and I am now part of something that has tremendous potential at North High School.

How active within FCA were/are you?

I don't have a lot of past experiences with FCA, but am looking forward to working together in the future.

What is your athletic experience? (Where?)

Northern University High School, Cedar Falls, IA – Football, Basketball, Track & Baseball
Central College, Pella, IA – Football & Basketball

What is your coaching experience? (Where?)

SE Polk – JH Football (2 Years), JH Track (2 Years), 9th Grade Girls Basketball (3 Years)
Des Moines North – 9th Grade Football (2 Years), Varsity Boys Basketball Asst. (4 Years)