

# Heart of a Coach – December 2015



**Name:** Dan James

**Hometown:** Dallas Center, IA

**Alma Mater:** University of Northern Iowa

**Degree(s):** BA Mathematics Education – UNI;  
Master in Education - Viterbo

**Coaches:** High School Football & Girls Soccer

**List your chosen attribute:** Humility

**What is your personal definition of this word?** Understanding you are not always the most important person/part of the team. Giving others their due credit.

**What are some of your favorite quotes from other people about this word?**  
Humility is not thinking less of yourself, it is thinking of yourself less. – CS Lewis

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

Mark 9:35

Sitting down, Jesus called the Twelve and said, “Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last, and the servant of all.”

**Why did you choose that particular passage?**

This helps to remind us to focus on putting others first and we will reap the rewards of Jesus. Serving others is the way we get closer with Jesus.

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

Working in education and sports you must have a very humbling personality and always be willing to put others needs in front of you. Too many times, people get worried about awards and accolades in whatever we are doing but we must remember to do our jobs to better others around us.

**How do you apply this word in your sport?**

I’ve been fortunate enough to coach some successful soccer teams at DC-G, but I always give the credit to our other coaches and players for making the program as successful as it has been. I’ve had the opportunity to coach in a couple state championship games, but my best memory of coaching was when we had a scrimmage on Good Friday and after we finished over 20 members went to Service with me. Many parents and strangers thanked and congratulated me – but it wasn’t about me. It was about the opportunity for students to worship Jesus (some for the first time). That was humbling.

**How did you become involved in FCA?**

We did not have a huddle at DC-G, so I discussed the idea with a few students and they thought there would be interest so I arranged a meeting with the local FCA administration and they got us up and running. I graduated from DC-G and this was a great opportunity for me to give back to our school and community.

**How active within FCA were/are you?**

I along with some other great teachers in our school lead a huddle at DC-G.

**What is your athletic experience? (Where?)**

I participated in football and soccer in HS

**What is your coaching experience? (Where?)**

I have coached MS and HS football and basketball, MS and HS basketball and HS girls soccer, all at DC-G.

I currently assist HS football and head coach for the girls soccer team.