

An Exercise To Discern Both Good and Evil (Hebrews 5:14)

Athletic Ministry

Scenario:

A proposal is being made to the congregation. Those making the proposal want to use the collection on the first day of the week to fund the building and to maintain a sports facility on the property where the congregation assembles. They want to start an "Athletic Ministry".

Statement That Arises From Our Scenario:

This Scripture is offered as authority for an "Athletic Ministry": "1 Corinthians 9:24-27: Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified." It is then said: "Knowing our bodies are dwelling places for the Holy Spirit, our mission is to faithfully instruct and encourage disciples to honor God with their bodies through physical activities that will enhance spiritual, mental, emotional and physical growth and assist in serving the kingdom."

A Later Statement Is Made:

It is proposed that this would allow the congregation to provide services such as: "A safe, Christ-centered environment where athletic skills can be learned and developed. Provide opportunities through athletics for bonding and mentorship relationships between mature members and our youth."

For Discussion:

What do you see in those statements?