

Encourage

Challenge: In 2006 NFC Wild Card game (Dallas vs. Seattle), with a little over 1 minute left in the game, the Dallas Cowboys lined up for a 19 yard field goal attempt which would have put them in the lead. The ball was snapped to holder Tony Romo, however the ball slipped through his fingers resulting in one the most unforgettable loss in Dallas Cowboy history.

Nobody was more tortured by that game's ending than Romo, of course. "Tony apologized to the whole team," Ladouceur said. "He said, 'I'm so sorry.' He felt really bad, and it was a really bad thing for him to go through.

Romo could have just folded, but he used that night as fuel to get better. You never know with something like that happening to someone's career, what it might do to you.

"The important thing is that your teammates have to know you're pulling for them and you really want them to be successful." Kobe Bryant

Questions to consider:

A needle can inflate or deflate a ball. Are you breathing life into others?

Why do we as people need encouragement?

What does a little encouragement do for you or a teammate?

What are some activities your team has done to help bring your team together before, during, or after the season?

What's going on: Jesus mission of giving His life for our sins and defeating death has been finished. Those who have turned from their old ways and accepted what Jesus has done are now in a right relationship with God. God is for us and no longer against us, no matter how we feel or what we go through in this life. The lives we live here on this earth aren't easy. We still struggle with sin because of the world, our flesh, and the devil. We as believers in Christ need one another in order to be strengthened and be who God wants us to be.

Game Time: Hebrews 10:19-25

1. What should believers do to remain confident?
2. What was causing the believers to become discouraged and want to quit?
3. Those who are discouraged have the natural tendency to do what?
4. What helps us when we are going through hard times?

Key Verse: "...let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds." Hebrews 10:24

Anchor to remember:

- Encouragement builds the confidence of others