

Team Culture

Story: For basketball purist's watching the 2013-2014 San Antonio Spurs play was like watching poetry in motion. Their long-standing stars Tim Duncan, Manu Ginobili, and Tony Parker were joined by rising superstar Kawhi Leonard. Standing in their way was the reigning back-to-back NBA Champion Miami Heat led by LeBron James, Dwayne Wade, and Chris Bosh. Who had just beat the Spurs in seven (7) games the previous year. However, this year would be different. The Spurs outscored the Heat in the series by the largest average point differential (14.0) in Finals history. They won the series in five (5) games.

The phrase that came to define their season was, "the ball doesn't stick." Meaning that each player would be willing to give up their good shot for a teammate's great shot. Despite being by far the most nationally diverse team (9 different nationalities on roster), their unselfishness became contagious and good players became an unstoppable team!

Questions to consider:

Take a moment to reflect on the best cultures that you have ever been a part of either in sports or school.

What is the most positive and productive team, group, or organization you have ever been a part of? Describe what it was like to be a part of that successful culture.

What was the most dysfunctional team, group, organization you have ever been a part of? Describe what it was like to be a part of that negative culture.

How would you currently describe your program's culture?

Is the current culture of your team helping you be the kind of program you aspire to be?

Context: With less than twenty-four hours away from Jesus' death on the cross His mind is set on preparing His disciples for His departure. He knows that He is going to die and return to His Father soon, but He has one more important thing for them to remember before He leaves.

Scripture: Luke 22:24-27; John 13:4-15

1. What was the most important thing on the disciples minds? What did that cause among them?
2. How did Jesus define greatness?
3. Why was it important for Jesus to model a servant heart to his followers?
4. Why was Jesus death on the cross the ultimate act of service?

Key Verse: "...you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I gave you an example that you also should do as I did to you." John 13:14-15

Anchor to remember:

- Shift your attention from what you can get to what you can give.