

THE STAR FOOTBALL PLAYER

There is an old story about a young high school football star who was being recruited by a coach from a major college.

The coach had never seen the young man play, so he asked him some direct questions. “Son,” he said, “I understand that you do the passing for your team. Are you a pretty good passer?”

“Am I a good passer?” the boy answered. “Why, I threw the ball 100 times this season and only had one incompleting – and that was because the receiver fell down before the ball got to him.”

The coach was impressed. “I understand that you also played defense,” he said. “Are you a good tackler?”

“Am I a good tackler?” the boy answered. “Why, I’ll have you know that in one game this year, I sacked the quarterback three times.”



The coach rubbed his hands in glee. “I understand that you also do the punting for your team. Can you kick the ball pretty well?”

“Can I kick? I’ll have you know that I have to hold back on my punts to keep the ball from sailing into the stands.”

The coach was thrilled. “Tell me, son,” he said, “do you have any weaknesses?”

The boy thought for a moment and replied, “Well, I do have a tendency to exaggerate a little.”

That young man may have overstated his abilities more than a little. But what a refreshing change from most Christians. If anything, most of us have a tendency to understate just how much God means in our lives, and how much of a privilege it is to be a part of the kingdom of God.

Following Jesus is the most thrilling business in the world. God has entrusted you and me with the mission of loving and serving the elderly and the frail – people who find themselves in difficult circumstances – producing an inner joy and peace. And, in the process, sharing the good news of what He has done for us.

We are ambassadors for Christ (2 Corinthians 5:20 ESV).

– Beecher Hunter