



When Jesus died on the cross He was placed in a grave. After three days and nights in the grave He arose just as He said He would. He said that if we would tell others with our mouths that He is Lord and believe in our hearts that he arose from the grave that He will save us from our sin and give us eternal life with Him in Heaven. Will you stop and ask Him to forgive you and to be the Lord and Savior of your life right now? The color white represents how God sees us after He saves us. We are a cleansed forgiven child of God.

Come now, let us reason together, says the LORD: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool. Isaiah 1:18; If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:9





Green represents new growth in the trees, plants, and grasses of the earth. In the same way we must show new growth in our lives with Jesus as our Lord and Savior. We must study the Bible, pray to God, and assemble with other Christians to grow in faith and knowledge.

Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth. 2 Timothy 2:15; But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. 2 Peter 3:18

# **Contact Information:**



Visit our web site at www.ccchampions.org. Bible references: ESV.

#### White:



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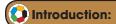
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We all enjoy watching a game. What makes it fun and interesting is there is always a winner and a loser. When the final whistle sounds and the game is over we all hope we were on the winning team. In many ways life is like a game. One day it will be over and those who are on the winning side will celebrate while those on the losing side will suffer their loss for all eternity. Unlike sports, however, there is no next game or next season. Life is a one-time experience and there are no second chances. The other unique thing about life is that you know which team will win and you can choose to be on that team. The colors on the ball help to tell the story of how God wants to have a relationship with you and that you can be on His team.



In producing this ball, it was the intention of the manufacturer that the ball bounce. However, this ball will never bounce until it is filled. According to the Bible, the same is true for you and me. God created us to have a relationship with Him. However, to experience that relationship, we too, need to be filled. The colors on the ball describe how we can discover that relationship, be filled, be forgiven, and become all that God wants us to be. This "Good News" story begins with the blue panel on the ball...

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### Introduction:

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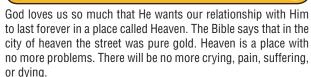




God is the One who has created the blue heavens and seas, and He has even created you and me. God wants to have a love relationship with us.

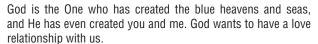
In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. Genesis 1:1; For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16; By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. 1 John 3:16

#### Gold:



And the twelve gates were twelve pearls, each of the gates made of a single pearl, and the street of the city was pure gold, transparent as glass. Revelation 21:21; The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. 2 Peter 3:9

#### Blue:



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#### Gold:

God loves us so much that He wants our relationship with Him to last forever in a place called Heaven. The Bible says that in the city of heaven the street was pure gold. Heaven is a place with no more problems. There will be no more crying, pain, suffering, or dying.

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## (a) Dark:



God is a holy God, and we are not a holy people. We have made mistakes. We have lied. We have been angry and maybe even acted out on that anger. The Bible calls these mistakes "sin," and these sins separate us from God. [the seams on the basketball represent dark, while the other balls have a dark panel]

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, Romans 3:23; For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 6:23

## Red:



We have talked about how much God loves us. His love is so great that He was willing to allow His Son to pay the penalty for our sins. Jesus Christ, the Son of God, died on the cross and endured the punishment that we should have endured. The color red represents the blood He shed when He died, and reminds us that our "sin-debt" has been paid.

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16; but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:8; For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 6:23

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