



The Wellspring of Life Initiative

“Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life.”

Proverbs 4:23

The mission of the Wellspring of Life Initiative is to train coaches and athletic leaders in the way to enable athletes to “declare the praises of Him who called you out of darkness and into His marvelous light” (1 Peter 2:9).

Enclosed in your NCSAA membership packet are your 2007-08 *Wellspring of Life Initiative* materials. During this first year of the *Wellspring* program, you have received your “Basic Core Package.” As you use the program this year, keep in mind the following suggestions:

- The Basic Core Package is intended primarily for the purpose of **training your coaches** in how to integrate a *Discipline for Godliness* program into their team routines and activities. Thus, be sure to get these resources into your coaches’ hands. If you need extra copies of the materials, contact NCSAA (724-846-2764) in order to get more at special NCSAA Member School “at-cost” (very low) prices.
- Coaches **should not** expect to cover all of the material with their teams this year, but mainly should seek to be challenged in their coaching philosophies and practices...and to choose some specific portions (one or two disciplines) of the core program that they can use with their teams.
- One specific suggestion is to use the *Role of Parents* booklet as a challenge to your players’ parents throughout the year. This is an excellent way to help get your parents “on board” as partners in what your coaches are trying to accomplish!
- Consider ways to make the *Wellspring* program known to your parents, fans, teachers, student body, and others who will be supporting your coaches and athletes throughout the year. The more publicly you promote the *Wellspring* program (its goals and the specific disciplines chosen by your coaches for each season), the more all-encompassing it will become for your athletic program!
- Remember that, as an NCSAA Member School, you also have access to additional *Wellspring* materials and resources (as they are added) at <http://www.ncsaa.org/wellspring.htm>
- **AND...**We are looking for 5 or 6 schools to act as “model schools” for the 2007-08 school year. These schools will commit to being intentional about instituting the *Wellspring of Life Initiative* throughout their athletic programs for the coming year. We will feature their programs and the highlights of their year with the *Wellspring* program in a special issue of *Passion in Play* next summer or fall. If you are interested in serving in this way, please contact us at 724-846-2746 (phone) or wellspring@ncsaa.org (e-mail). Thanks!

Each year that you are an NCSAA Member School, you will receive new and different *Wellspring* materials, so the program will be valuable to your coaches and program in new ways every year. Our goal is to give you a complete program to integrate three specific disciplines every year (one for the fall sports season, one for winter, and one for spring), complete with three new practical “curriculum” booklets each year, as well as additional resources that your coaches can use. Outlined below are our plans for what you’ll receive in the first five years of the *Wellspring of Life Initiative*.

YEAR 1 — Basic Core Package

YEAR 2 — Work Habits / Confidence / Perseverance

YEAR 3 — Humility / Teachable Spirit / Leadership

YEAR 4 — Accountability / Integrity / Honor

YEAR 5 — Joy / Gratitude / Mercy