



Monday's Scouting Report – "In His Mitt"

November 30, 2015

Belief vs Faith

"I just knew it was a matter of time before we did it. I saw our players come into Spring Training with the same determined attitude and they were very convicted that this was going to be our year. So, for me, it was just like I had the answer beforehand. When they asked the question I had the answer."

– Ed Yost, Manager, Kansas City Royals

Do you and your players believe that you can win the Championship this year? Or more importantly does your team have faith – *"the determined attitude"* - that you can win it!?

What's the difference? True faith is more than simply believing!

While faith includes the element of belief, they are not one in the same. Yes one must believe that something, or someone exists before it is possible to put one's faith in that person or thing. However, I can believe some things that do not change my life. For example, I believe that chocolate ice cream tastes better than vanilla, but I have not changed how I live my life because of this belief.

My players can believe they have a shot to win the championship, but unless they truly have faith they can win it – *"the determined attitude"* - they will not pursue the season in a way that will exemplify that goal. They will not have that single-minded focus in practice, in the gym or in the classroom required to be champions. In order for my players and my coaches to sincerely pursue a Championship caliber season they must be willing to live and act out the values that are crucial to allowing success to happen.

The 2015 Kansas Royals are a great example. Some may argue that they may not have had the better talent. They did have the best team!and more importantly they had faith they could win the World Series. Read these quotes from Royals Manager, Ed Yost:

"...I feel like it's what we knew was going to happen and we went out and accomplished it. It's just something that I knew in my heart we were going to do. I just knew it."

"What I found out, in these situations, you can't control anything. You can't just say, 'Go get hits.' But you sit back and you trust your club. You have faith in your players that they're going to go out and give their best effort. And if their best effort is not good enough on that given day, you put your arms around them and thank them for it because that's all you can do."

"But there was no panic or fear [in Houston]. And all of sudden it was boom, boom, boom, and we got a bunch of hits. I don't think there was any doubt because we did it before in the [AL] Wild Card Game the year before. They knew they could [win] and they went out and did it again."

The Kansas City Royals team had faith that they could win the World Series. This faith came from a trust they developed from their successful run in 2014. They knew what had to be done, what it would take to get to the World Series. ...and everyone in the organization from the owner to the janitor, and everyone in between, knew what it was going to take. They had experienced first-hand in 2014 what it felt like and what it took to be a winning franchise and team. More importantly, they understood and trusted what it would take to win!

Do you trust and know what it will take to win on a daily basis? Many of us will say that we believe in God. However, is this simple "belief" enough? Do we actually trust in God? Are we willing to change how we live and allow Him to guide our steps? Jesus tells us in Luke 18:27 that; *"What is impossible with men, is possible with God"* and that we should; *"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength."* (Mark 12:30).

So I ask you; are you living day to day, just believing? Or do you have "faith" and trust in God?

"Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen" –Hebrews 11:1