



Monday's Scouting Report – "In His Mitt"

February 29, 2016

Rookie Coach

'Baseball is like church. Many attend, few understand.' -- Leo Durocher

Do you remember when you were a rookie coach? I do, and I'm glad there is no video on it! It would probably be entertaining to say the least.

Determined to make my mark and assert my authority, I treated everything like it's was a BIG deal. I made sure that none of my player's got away with anything. You late, you ran. You forgot your practice jersey, you ran. You made a mistake, you ran. You ..., you ran!

Looking back, I can say that it was certainly a combination of immaturity and a lack of perspective that lead me to be *"that guy."* Over time, like everyone else, I learned that to build a great team and to mold and inspire young men, I needed to learn what was and wasn't a "big deal." I needed to have more discernment and focus on situations that truly deserved my attention!

The game of baseball can teach us a lot if we pay attention.

Those with discretion save their anger for the things and situations that really deserve it...and their anger is the righteous kind, not the "I'm-going-to-make-you-pay kind." Baseball and life will always present us with reasons to be angry. Heck, they are both full of failure. The questions, is what do we do in the response to that failure?

Those that are mature on and off the field are slow to anger and are less easily offended. If you really want to, like a first-year coach, you can find plenty of things your players (or people) are doing wrong. Whether in general or toward you, you're going to find it. Why? Because you're looking for it.

The point isn't that we should refuse to hold our players accountable for their behavior. Of course, we should. The point is that we should do it in and with GRACE!

However, in order to act with grace, we first have to receive grace and forgiveness in our own lives. As we continue through the season of Lent and get closer to Easter Sunday, I encourage you to take stock in yourself and determine where you need to change and mature, so instead of being *"that guy,"* you can extend the love of God to your players.

I pray that you would be slow to anger and less easily offended. And, I pray that you realize that you can't do that on your own.

“A man’s discretion makes him slow to anger, and it is his glory to overlook a transgression.”
-- Proverbs 19:11