

# Discussion Board 1

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Intentionality is a concept of philosophy that can be defined as the control of minds in order to be aware of, to signify, and to accept things, material goods and even various situations. The word 'intentionality' means the capability of mind to structure depictions. Importantly, one should not confuse the term with the word 'intention'. The earliest premise of intentionality is allied with the ontological dispute of St. Anselm over the existence of God and his theories that distinguish between objectives which exist only in the perception and those ones which exist in reality (Anthony & Estep, 2005).

Talking about the intentionality and its usage in sports, one should mention the obvious reason why intentionality is extremely important for sports ministry. To be more precise, it helps to control all the deeds and actions of sportsmen, which is essential in their sports life. Undoubtedly, this helps them to concentrate on their games, fights, competitions, etc. Moreover, intentionality is used by the sports ministry as a concept of motivation, especially considering the fact that many sportsmen are very religious. According to the statistics, more than 40 percent of sportsmen are superstitious (Putman, 2008). This is the evidence of the fact that such concepts and theories as intentionality are not off their attention. Therefore, the international sports ministry incorporates the idea of intentionality into their sports program.

Intentionality in the leisure and sports ministry perspective is the practice of preaching the Gospel during sports ministry and recreation events and activities. For the most part, churches do not have any policy for intentional ministry to take place at recreation or sports activities. In other words, it is considered that if people come to Christ, it is good. Moreover, even if no one does, the ministry is

frequently considered to be successful only because it was held.

Today, the times of rolling out a goal by playing basketball and having spontaneous games are ended. Programming is an essential aspect, and it is conducted with the intention of allocating the Gospel. Efficient programming, in fact, does not suggest having a competence in order to run since sports ministry can be conducted successfully even without any facility. Indeed, churches do not have to be content with being commotion driven any longer. The reason for it is that there is a certain way by means of which churches are contacting the lost and restraining believers. To be more precise, they are preparing their sports ministries, which are supposed to be intentional, by contacting people and preaching the Gospel at every chance. Besides, their next tactic is developing believers by restraining them. Finally, churches increase the number of Christians who minister by giving opportunities for ministry involvement.

Sport is a language and tool that connects a great amount of people all over the world since every nation, every culture, and every country plays sports. Those Christians who make use of this tool find numerous opportunities that help to preach the Gospel to people from different countries.

In fact, sports are a great pitch for personal development and growth, and intentionality is the phenomenon that obviously leads to personal growth both spiritually and mentally. The use of intentionality in the athletic practice can help to encourage sportsmanship, teamwork, and individual responsibility, along with many other qualities. Thus, it can be said that intentionality is a principle that is appropriate not only for theology but for sports as well.

# References

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- Putman, J. (2008). *Church is a team sport: A championship strategy for doing ministry together*. Grand Rapids, MI: Books.