

Deon Hunter Sports Ministry

Hello Family,

Over the last several years, God has been preparing me for stronger leadership in the realm of sports ministry. As a child, I was raised as a Christian by both of my parents, the late Jimmie L. Hunter II and Katherine Hunter, for whom I am eternally grateful. My grandmother, Lusinda Ward January is to be commended as well because she was the heart and soul of effective Christian teaching. She believed that parents should train up a child in the way he/she should go (Proverb 22:6).

As a child, I grew up playing a lot of basketball, football, track, swimming, tennis, ping pong and baseball. Although I was very involved in sports, I can still remember today how important it was to my family that we had weekly Bible study on Wednesday nights at home. My mother and father took pride in being responsible parents. I can still remember how frustrated I would get at them because I didn't think that all of that Bible studying business would ever mean a lot or for that matter was necessary. However, in my family, participation wasn't an option. "If the last name was Hunter, and Jimmie and Katherine named you, you'd better fall in line or else". My parents raised four boys and one girl and I just so happen to be in the middle. And yes, we grew up just as normal as anyone else with everyone getting on each others nerves, bickering, fussing and sometimes fighting however we were taught to stick together and love one another unconditionally.

As a faithful, obedient and mature follower of Christ and the leader of our youth organization, I feel led to share with you what God has put on my heart. Throughout my growth in the Word, "I realize and accept that my sole purpose in life is to do things that bring recognition to Jesus Christ through sports". Which means yes, as an ambassador of Christ, I am called to minister to others and so are you" (2 Corinthian 5:18-20). I believe that God wants each of us to be more responsible and teach our children about Christ. The Bible tells me that, "all Christians are instructed to *Preach The Word* and perform our duty as a faithful servant" (2 Timothy 4:2-5 NIV, says, *preach the word*; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage-with great patience and careful instruction).

My goal for generations to come is to continue to build a sports organization that recognizes Jesus Christ as the Savior of the world and the son of God! My goal is to provide ongoing off-the-court

opportunities for youth to learn about God, faith, hope, discernment, obedience, being a Christian role model, prayer, daily devotion, how to resolve conflict, making healthy decisions, keeping their temple clean and much more. My goal is to teach young boys and girls that failure isn't an option. I want kids to learn how to compete in a healthy competitive way without losing their Christian identity. I believe that it's important that children realize that playing sports won't get them to heaven, but that accepting Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior will!

I understand that not all parents want their children taught about the word of God outside of their home or church. And I respect that. However, I recognize that God has given me special gifts to teach basketball, motivate players, and inspire individuals. I am not willing to compromise the sharing of my gifts without the ministry. It's God first, and sports second. God wants us to share the love of Christ with others no matter where we are. We should be sharing the word of God with others at work, at the gym, at sporting events, company parties, while having neighborly conversations, at the grocery store and in airports. It's not our words that matters so much, it's our actions. Remember that our actions speak louder than our words. We are called to be ambassadors for Christ.

Parents, I realize that raising children isn't an easy task. We often need other adults who share the same Christian values as we do to assist us with our children. I want you to know that I respectfully take my position of authority seriously. I want to offer each child a chance to learn basketball and what it takes to be successful. I believe that God already knows every child's future. Therefore, I will never promise to anyone that just because a child is a participant in our organization that they are going to be a starter in high school, receive a college scholarship, or become a NBA or WNBA player. Only God knows that. But what I will do is pray for your child and prepare him/her to be the very best that they can be. I will also sow seeds of joy, hope, courage, confidence, better work habits, teamwork, to respect people of authority, competitive aggressive nature, and the importance of achieving academic excellence. Additionally, I fully expect each and every employed staff member at my organizations to do the same.

I am committed to establishing a one-of-a-kind youth sport ministry organization that will have a profound impact in the lives of children and their families for generations to come. And putting God first is

where it begins. I want your partnership! And remember, the biggest doesn't necessarily mean the best. It doesn't matter if your child is the best of the best, or the least of the least. We want to establish a place where all of God's children can come and be a part of a healthy, first-class, God fearing environment.

Join me in sharing with others what God is doing through our organization. Please note, that in the near future, we will be creating additional year round programs that will have an impact on your child's continued development. "Our mission is to provide a safe, healthy, diversified and inspiring environment where children can come together and learn what it takes to fulfill their dreams".

"I know what you want and I am committed to making it happen". Serving others is what I enjoy. May the work of the Lord continue to be seen through my obedience. "Success to me can be defined by winning souls for Christ". Each one-Teach one!

T. Deon Hunter
President and Director
HHB Inc./BB Inc.