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Coaching For The Long Haul by Josh Dowdy

“All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.” Psalm 25:10

Many of us grew up admiring coaches—both the ones on TV and the ones who slapped our butts. They taught us discipline, and they showed us that coaching is a calling—inspiring many of us to follow that path.

We coach our relatives at Thanksgiving, our coworkers in the conference room, and our kids and everyone else’s at the ballfield. We mean well, but sometimes our coaching counts for only the next inning, game, or season. In Psalm 25, David offers some coaching for the long haul.

“All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.”

We believe the paths of the Lord to be righteousness, but aren’t we tempted also to see them as sacrifice and insecurity? Regarding the world’s values, that may be the case. So, we get the idea to choose carefully—to pick a path both righteous and rewarding, rather than righteous and risky. David says, no—all the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness. That’s a truth we must both take hold of ourselves and be quick to coach up our brothers to trust. Someone in your life likely needs to hear it right now. He’s facing a fork in the road, and he has to choose between the easy way and the path of faith.

Who will you reach out to this week with encouragement that all the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness?

Josh Dowdy attends Shades with his wife and two daughters. He enjoys coffee and coaching soccer.

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Men of Shades Night at the Barons!

Wednesday, June 22 it's Men of Shades Night with the Birmingham Barons at Regions Field! We've reserved the Home Run Porch for a fun night for the entire family. This is a Men of Shades event for EVERYONE - dads, sons, moms, daughters and your unchurched friends, co-workers and neighbors. And it's only \$10 per person for everyone age 9 and older! You can enjoy the game plus hot dogs, hamburgers, baked beans, potato chips, cookies, soft drinks, team and water. We've got a special offer for single moms and their children as well. Click on this link <https://www.shades.org/events/mens-ministry-family-barons-game> for all the details and to register. It's going to be a lot of fun, so mark your calendar and plan to join us on Wednesday, June 22 for Men of Shades night at The Barons!

For more info on how to get involved with Men of Shades, visit www.shades.org/men

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