

THE STEWARDSHIP PAPERS

What's the Score?

I've often told my children, "It's not who wins or loses, but how the game is played that counts."

Since then, my volley ball team has lost six out of six games; so...

I've been forced to think about this handy-dandy answer to all of life's problems. You see, I found myself feeling pretty low after our last game...it's hard to play "with spirit" when you seem to be on the losing team all of the time.

But, as per usual, the words "in the wings" were an inspiration; and I'd like to share them with you, if I may.

You see, our team...the "losing" team...played each point as if it were the most important point in the world. (We cheered when we finally made it on the scoreboard!) WE TRIED OUR VERY BEST...and, consequently, we "scored" where it counts. And I pray that, if we should get dumped on

"seventy times seven times," [Matt. 18:22]

we shall continue to play with Spirit. But even so, should the time come when some of us are tired and ask,

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"How long, O lord?" [Job 7:19]

we can still rest assured that,

*"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for
theirs is the kingdom of heaven."* [Matt. 5:3]

- the reward for the team that played long and hard...
- the team that may have lost, by earthly standards,
but, in heaven, were the winners!

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