

# Baseball Team Devotion- Batting Practice

## Scripture Lesson: Luke 8:19-21

One of the neatest things about going to a Major League game is getting there early enough to watch batting practice or BP. It is poetry in motion. There are infielders taking ground balls, outfielders catching flies, hitters taking their turn in the batting cage by groups. It is constant motion, all at the same time. BP is just that, it is practice. You see the players working on every aspect of the game, fielding, throwing, running, and hitting. This pregame practice helps prepare them each day for the game that is to be played. It is not enough to know how to hit. One has to practice how to hit to become better. The best Major League players are the ones who work the hardest at BP, for they are prepared to play the game by all their hard work during the practice time called BP.

In our Scripture lesson today, Jesus is once again teaching. By this time in His ministry, Jesus has started drawing very large crowds. Not only is His teaching wonderful, but people have seen and heard about His healing ministry as well. Jesus is told that His mother and brothers are outside and they want to see Him. Jesus says something then that seems a little strange to us. He says, "My mother and my brothers are those who hear God's word and put it into practice. What He is saying to us is His family is the family of God, fellow believers. But He gives a definition for what it means to be a part of God's family, to put into practice God's word. Jesus is telling us to not just read and know what the Bible says, we are to practice it. What would happen if a major League player never practiced hitting? He might know everything there is to know about hitting, but that is not enough is it? Without practice in baseball, players cannot master the skills to become a great player. Without living what the Bible teaches us we cannot become a great Christian. I bet you can tell me when your last baseball practice occurred. Can you tell me when your last Bible practice occurred? It's time to hit the Christian practice field and take a little BP, Bible Practice.

Visual aid: Borrow a Coach's practice plan and bring a Bible.