

Baseball Team Devotion- The Sacrifice Bunt

Scripture Lesson: 1John 2:1-2

The Sacrifice bunt is a play in baseball where the batter literally sacrifices his at bat to move the runner(s) up a base. Did you know that the Major League Leader in sacrifice bunts for this year (2009) was Javier Vazquez, a pitcher for the Braves, with 20. New York Met second base man Luis Castillo had 19 sacrifice bunts followed by Astro second base man Kaz Matsui with 18. To be among the league leaders in sacrifice bunts, one must not only be a good bunter, but also be willing to give up at bats to move the runners along. It is a play that puts your team in a position to score a run or runs. Baseball recognizes the unselfish giving done with a sacrifice bunt by not charging an official at bat to the person credited with the sacrifice bunt. So it really turns out to be a free at bat to help your team when the sacrifice bunt is successful.

Our Scripture lesson today reminds us of the greatest of all sacrifices. Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for not only our sins but the sins of the entire world. Jesus came to this world for only one purpose. That purpose was to die. He came to this world from the glories of heaven to die for our sins and mistakes. He paid the price we could never pay for the mistakes we have made. God gladly gave the life of His Son, Jesus to be the sacrifice for our sins. His death on the cross gives us the opportunity to accept the free gift of salvation. It is free for us, but it cost Almighty God the life of His Son. Who is Jesus to you today? Is He your Savior? Have you given Him your heart and life? Maybe today we need to clean the sin out of our lives by confessing those sins to Him and asking for forgiveness. Don't ever forget what Jesus did for you and me. He paid the price for our sins and gives us a way to spend eternity in heaven. The sacrifice bunt can put us in the position to win the game. What Jesus did for us gives us the opportunity to be a winner in the game of life. I am so glad He loves us that much!

Visual aid: Great music video about crucifixion on you tube

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RNgbYdDZA8> Also any clip from the Passion of the Christ.