

## Stand Up for God Story



**Narrator:** “Kevin was the most popular boy in school. Everyone like him. He was good-looking, smart, and funny. At recess, the boys fought over who would get Kevin on their soccer team. He was tough and could run fast. He was a good athlete, and everyone knew it. Kevin had lots of trophies at home that he had won in the city sports league.

At the class picnic on the last day of school, Kevin and the other boys found a grassy area where they could play soccer. Because it was a warm day, the boys stopped to rest after they had played a while. Kevin said:

**Kevin:** “Hey, let’s choose teams and make our own neighborhood soccer league for the summer. We could meet at the park everyone morning next week and practice!”

**Matt and Keller:** “That’s a great idea!”

**Narrator:** “Then Mark remembered that Vacation Bible School would start next week with his church. It would be held in the mornings. He and his sisters planned to go. He said:

**Mark:** “Oh, wait, I can’t come in the mornings next week. I’m going to Vacation Bible School.”

**Kevin:** “You go to Bible School? That’s funny. I never go to church, and I sure wouldn’t spend a whole week in the summer going to a church school! That’s silly.”

**Narrator:** “Mark looked a little uncomfortable, but then said:

**Mark:** “Well, look, instead of practicing in the mornings, why don’t we just practice in the afternoons? I can come then?”

**Narrator:** “Kevin used God’s name like it was a bad word. He said:

**Kevin:** “Really? You’d rather go to church than play soccer? You’ve got to be kidding. We’ll just play without you.”

**Narrator:** “Matt and Keller were disappointed that Kevin was making fun of Mark for going to Bible school. They also didn’t like it when Kevin used God’s name in a bad way. Matt said:



**Matt:** “I go to VBS every summer in another town when I go to my grandma and grandpa’s. I like it! It’s fun! You learn interesting stories about the Bible and about God. Kevin, you should try it. Maybe you would have fun too.”

**Keller:** “Seriously, Kevin, let’s just practice in the afternoons.”

**Narrator:** “Mark felt so much better when Matt and Keller spoke up and agreed with him. The other boys all looked at Kevin. Kevin could see he was outnumbered. He said:

**Kevin:** “Ok, we’ll practice in the afternoons. But everyone better be here by one o’clock!”

**Narrator:** “Everyone ran to the field to start playing their game again. Matt and Keller went up to Mark and patted him on the shoulder. They all felt good that they had found a way to play soccer and still honor God too.”

