

At Immanuel Christian School our volleyball teams realize how exciting winning can be. Both the Girls Volleyball team and the Boys Volleyball team won gold in the Ontario Christian School Invitational Volleyball Tournament in Bowmanville. The students proudly shared the news during Chapel. The trophies are proudly displayed in the front entrance. Winning is great. Winning helps us realize the importance of working towards a goal. The greater the competition the more clearly this is evident. Achievement doesn't just happen.

Achieving a goal requires practice. Not everything is exciting. Practicing serves, or learning to bump, or developing control can be tedious and monotonous. It takes perseverance to master these skills.

Achieving a goal requires team work. Working together is critical. You must know what to expect from your team members. That means knowing them, what to expect of them and what encouragement to give.

Achieving a goal requires self-discipline. It means training even when there are enticing distractions. It means training even when it hurts.

Achieving a goal requires integrity, committing to working with others, coming through with your best effort and attitude. You want to achieve the goal fairly and honestly.

Winning is not the goal. Winning is a measure of pulling together, honing skills, not letting anyone fall behind, encouragement, perseverance that results in the best game you can play.

When you win it's a good measure of how well all these components have come together. *Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. 1 Corinthians 9:24, 25*

When we apply these traits to other areas of our life, we honour God and bring hope and encouragement to those with whom we live and work.