



Playing to Win . . . Others to Christ

**“Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.”
(1 Peter 3:15)**

This sheet is just a tool to help you think about the way you live in front of your friends and family. You don't have to circle any answers; just think about your most common responses in these kinds of situations. (Note: You're the batter.)

Compassion: If someone expresses sadness or disappointment about something, you:

Strike-out: Make a joke about it

Strike-out: Walk away without saying anything

Single: Just look at the floor awkwardly, but stay with the person and listen

Strike-out: Quote a Bible verse about all things working for good, and tell her to cheer up

Double: Tell about a time when something like that happened to you

Home Run: Express some real sadness for her while listening to the whole story and silently asking God to help

Revenge: If someone slams you in a mean way for no good reason in front of your friends, you:

Strike-out: Slash his tires when nobody is around

Strike-out: Pretend to laugh it off, but quietly plan your revenge

Single: Ignore it completely

Double: Silently tell God how mad you are and ask for self-control to keep from getting even

Strike-out: Lash out with an even better insult (Nobody gets away with treating you badly!)

Triple: Look for a way to talk to the person to see if you can find out why she's so angry and then make peace

Grand Slam: Find a way to do something good for him, while praying that God would help him in a way that you would like to be helped

Hard Times: When you're having a really bad day—or month, you:

Strike-out: Get angry and treat people like dirt

Strike-out: Feel sorry for yourself and give in to temptation

Walk: Try to keep a good attitude, but stop trying as hard to do what's right

Triple: Tell God how you honestly feel and thank Him for the good things He's given you

Triple: Be honest with your friends about your struggles, but refuse to give into self-pity

Home Run: Tell those who sincerely ask how you keep going through such hard times that your hope is in Jesus and your future with Him in heaven (1 Peter 3:15)

Witnessing: When someone asks what you believe about God, you:

Strike-out: Tell them you believe the truth and they believe a lie—and that they should deal with it

Strike-out: Tell them they're going straight to hell because they don't believe what you do

Single: Say that you're a Christian and stop talking

Triple: Explain that you're convinced the Bible is true and you've become a Christian by trusting in Jesus' death in your place to save you from sin and guarantee you a home in heaven with God—and not in hell apart from Him.

Home Run: Explain the above, and ask them to explain what they believe, silently asking God to help him or her trust in Jesus for salvation

To find out more about John Smoltz and how his faith in Jesus changes the way he plays to win, read “Smoltz Knows Saves” on page 42 of the Summer 2004 issue of Go! magazine. And next time you hit the Web, don't forget to drop by go.studentz.com to find lots of great ideas for reaching your friends, family and nation with the Good News about Jesus.