

## “I’m missing the game!”

By Roberto Bruno

Well I hate to say it but James Denman Middle School’s baseball season is over. The only reason why I mention it is because my thirteen year old son Amadeaus was on the team. He assisted a few plays, smacked a couple of base hits, and brought in some runs. We are really proud of him. While attending the games I realized that middle school baseball has some interesting fans. You have a few of the parents, an occasional teacher, and then you have the middle school students. The students are rowdy, boisterous, and playful. The only problem is that they do not pay attention to the game. The students are so busy messing around in the stands that they miss the entire game that is being played right in front of them. The question I ask myself is, “Am I missing what God has for me because I’m focusing on something else?” I dread the thought of God working right in front of me and I can’t see it.

Queen Esther was so focused on King Ahasuerus’ throne room protocol she almost missed the ultimate opportunity to save her people from a holocaust. It took Esther’s cousin Mordecai to get her to refocus. *“For if you remain completely silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place, but you and your father’s house will perish. Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?”* Esther 4:14. Many times we put so much importance on things that really don’t matter. We may feel that we are busy doing good for the Lord but we are just preoccupied. If we take the time to truly seek God, He will reveal what we should be doing. Look at Esther’s response to Mordecai, *“Go, gather all the Jews who are present in Shushan, and fast for me; neither eat nor drink for three days, night or day. My maids and I will fast likewise. And so I will go to the king, which is against the law; and if I perish, I perish!”* Esther 4:16. What courage! What valor! Esther immediately refocused on God and was willing to go the distance for the cause.

The activities in the stands of life can be fun, distracting, and time consuming. The real action is on the field with God. Let’s take our eyes off the busyness and place them where they belong.



Amadeaus leading off to steal 3<sup>rd</sup>