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THE RULE BOOK

I was holding a youth meeting in our home many years ago. There was a teenage boy about 17 that came to the meeting. I shared our lesson, and he asked how I could be certain that the bible was accurate.

Since he was very active in sports, I put a question to him. I said, "When you are playing baseball, and you are up to bat with 4 strikes and five balls against you and the pitcher..."

He interrupted me and said, "There aren't 4 strikes and five balls in baseball." I responded with, "There are in my rule book." Then I said, "When you are on fourth base heading toward home base..." He interrupted me again and said there aren't five bases. There are three and home base." I responded again with, "There are in my rule book."

He answered with, "Well those aren't the official rules." I answered with, "Oh, there is an official rule book for baseball?" He said, "Yes." And I asked him if he had read the rules and answered with, "Yes."

I went on to tell him and the rest of the youth that there is an official rule book with God too, and that it is the bible. He became very sober and really started to listen. Then, there was an opportunity for him to be saved, and he received the Lord the "rule book" way.

Many people try to make up their own rules on how to be a Christian. Many don't even read the bible and therefore don't know the "rules." A better way of putting it, is that they don't know what God has said because they haven't read the "book."

Deception comes because we do not know the truth. Truth comes from learning about who truth is. Who/what is truth? Jesus said in John 14:6, ***"...I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."*** You see, there is only ONE WAY, not two or three ways that might get you to the Father; there is only one. Jesus is that One and Only way. Knowing and receiving Him as your Savior is your way to the Father.

The young man learned about "The Truth" at that youth meeting, and the Truth set him free. I am so thankful for the illustration that Holy Spirit gave. I am also thankful there aren't five bases in baseball. It would be possible to win with those rules.