

Heart of a Coach – June 2009

Name: Kirk Trow

Home Town: Des Moines, Iowa

Alma Mater/Degrees:

Iowa State University, BS Elementary Education

Drake University, MS Adult Education and Training



Kirk giving instruction at our Annual Spring Break Tennis Clinic

Chosen Attribute: Service

What is your personal Definition of Service?

Using the gifts that we receive from God to meet the needs of His people

What are some of your favorite Quotes from other people about Service?

Service is the rent we pay for the privilege of living on this earth – Shirley Chisholm

In this life we cannot do great things. We can only do small things with great love – Mother Teresa

What is your favorite Biblical passage that deals with Service? Romans 12:6-8

We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man's gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith. If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully.

Why did you choose that particular passage?

It reminds me that God has given each of us a special gift and I have an obligation to use that gift to bring glory to Him and hopefully make a contribution

Please give an example of this word in your life.

I have been very blessed throughout my life to be surrounded by people who have a passion to serve. My mother, father and grandmother assumed with great joy and fervor the serving of family, friends and neighbors....I think in a way it taught me that service is a way of communicating God's love to those we serve.

How do you apply this word in your sport?

Funny coincidence but "serving" initiates points, competition and play in tennis – and serving is the paradigm that initiates the action of coaching for me.

How did you become involved in FCA?

My very good friend Steve Sikkink invited me to be a part of the FCA Team

How active within FCA are you?

I try to be active as a Board member to listen and provide feedback on activities and initiatives when needed. Dave and his team do such a wonderful job for the coaches and athletes in Iowa....we are blessed by all of their good works. I also help with an inner-city preseason tennis camp for high school students in Central Iowa.

What is your athletic experience?

I played both basketball and tennis at Hoover High School in Des Moines, Iowa.

What is your coaching experience?

I was a head tennis coach at Urbandale for 12 years and I currently just completed my 7th year as head tennis coach at Valley High School.