Date: 2/1/20

Title: Superbowl Sunday

Theme: Christians are playing on a team that wins much more than a trophy.

Object: Football, Patriots hat or shirt. Picture of Lombardi trophy.

Text: Matthew 16:18 (KJV) And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

Well, tomorrow is a really big day for football fans.

They’ve been waiting all year for this day to arrive.

Does anyone know what game is being played tomorrow? [Show football]

That’s right! It’s Superbowl Sunday, and we’re going to be watching the biggest football game of the year, the Superbowl.

Now I wish I was going to be wearing this Patriot’s shirt as I watch the game. [Show shirt]

But, unfortunately, the Patriots didn’t make the Superbowl this year.

The two best teams in football this year are the San Francisco 49ers and the Kansas City Chiefs.

These teams have played every week since September, and they have defeated all the other teams.

These are the two best teams in football, and they are playing tomorrow for the national championship.

Whoever wins this game will be the best football team in the world.

They will get the Lombardi Trophy that goes to the winner of this game.

(Here’s a picture of Tom Brady, the Patriots quarterback, with the Lombardi Trophy after Super Bowl 53 last year)

The Lombardi trophy is given to the whole team because everyone on the team is important.

Everyone has to do their job and do it well in order for the team to win.

Did you know that Christians are on a team too?

Whose team are we on? (Jesus’ team.)

And if you look around you today in church, you’ll see some of your teammates.

We are a team that worships together, and prays together, and gives together, and works together to make God’s kingdom grow.

When you watch football, many times during the game you will see a player get tackled.

As he’s lying there on the ground, his teammates will run over to him and help him get up.

That’s what it’s like to be on Jesus’ team too.

Being part of a church means that we help each other up when we get knocked down.

Maybe somebody’s sick or sad or lonely; we can pick them up by being their friend.

Now in football, each team has a playbook.

It’s a book with all the different plays they can run to try to move the football down the field and score a touchdown.

We have a playbook too: Our playbook is the Bible.

The Bible tells us what to believe and how to live so that we can be faithful to Jesus and win the victory on His team.

Sometimes in football, a player makes a mistake. Maybe a player fumbles the ball and the other team recovers. Maybe the quarterback throws and interception and the other team catches the ball and scores a touchdown. It is very hard to win when players make these kinds of mistakes.

Do you think Christians make mistakes too? Yea, they’re called sins.

But you know what? Jesus doesn’t kick us off his team when we make a mistake.

He sends the Holy Spirit to make us feel sorry for our sins, and when we tell Jesus we’re sorry, He’ll forgive us and keep us on His team.

And when we win on Jesus’ team, we don’t just get a Lombardi trophy.

We get eternal life in a beautiful new world with our captain, Jesus.

How many want to be on the winning team that Jesus is leading to victory?

