

News Story Summary

Following this month's rescue of 12 Thai boys (ages 11 to 16) who were trapped in a cave in northern Thailand, attention focused on their assistant coach, 25-year-old Ekapol Chanthawong. The coach had spent many hours with the boys away from the soccer field prior to them being trapped, building trust in the coach. Questions about legal action are being posed. However, most of the Thai public support the coach, and because of his care of the boys, the parents may not press charges. It was reported that while in the cave, Chanthawong, who was a trained monk, give the boys some of his food and taught them to meditate so they could conserve energy.

(For more on this story, search the Internet using the phrase "Thai soccer coach sued.")

Focus Attention

Following the List idea under Focus Attention, share the news story summary about the Thai soccer coach. Direct the group to identify words on the board that describe the coach. Ask: *How might the characteristics identified help foster trust between the players and the coach? How important was that trust for their survival?* Complete by following the Discuss step as written.

Summarize and Challenge

To support the Respond idea under Summarize and Challenge, begin by reminding the group of ways the Thai coach built unity before and while trapped in the cave. Ask: *How did David build unity before and during his recovering his throne? How do the actions of the two men compare? What do the two situations teach us about the value of unity and trust?* Complete the step by pointing the group to the third question under In My Context (or Apply the Text if using the Daily Discipleship Guide) as described in the group plans.