

The Olivet Youth Basketball program is very fortunate to have such a director as Steve Myers who carries out his professional responsibility within the healthy boundaries of the program's mission. The mission itself directs all activities that promote growth in all 3 dimensions of this class's 3d framework. While my past coaching experiences proved that society currently pushes for the physical dimension to be emphasized, Steve Myers mentions the well rounded experience that can be coached in the OYB program. These embraced values are character, teamwork, discipline, respect, and sportsmanship. In an interview with Steve we discussed this mission of the OYB program as well as some aspects that relate to the 3D coaching framework.

In the interactions of the interview I learned about how Steve experiences the first dimension of coaching. He says in the past varsity coaching position he held there were BCAM clinics that coaches attended to tune their coaching in physical conditioning, skills and strategies of the game. Steve also went on to discuss that it is important to have regular meetings with the coaches and volunteers within the OYB program. So it is my suggestion to implement some of the "BCAM" like training in one of those meetings each year. And it is also to my experience here at past OYB meetings that these types of sessions are beneficial to the program atmosphere. It may improve practice drills, style of play, and make competitions more of a positive experience.

How does Steve's program address the second dimension that pertains to the emotions of those involved? For this aspect of coaching Steve reflected on his past experiences in high school coaching where they would spend bonding together at team camps. I agree with Steve on this concept. We should implement emphasis on the OYB spending experiences similar to the high school team camps where teams can gain friendships through enjoyable moments eating, playing, laughing, winning, losing, sweating, and sharing stories together. Summer is one of those specific time frames where the program could emphasize times and opportunities like these. For these needs my best suggestion is to promote quality summer camps/clinic opportunities to all of the parents and players of the OYB. Maybe we can even decide on a certain amount of money to be set aside each year to help pay for a number of financial needs in this 2nd dimension strategy.

Steve mentioned that he has never taken part of any training in the 3rd dimension of coaching. There is a lack of spiritual training in coaching. Why is that? Personally, I can relate to reasons why there isn't much movement in our society to help grow us all in the 3rd dimension. My ugliest coaching season was one where I implemented 3rd dimension strategies. Two specific examples of these were the offering of athlete spiritual mentoring and the spotlight drill. After experiencing the persecution that took place this season, it seems that one could easily feel burned by the 3rd dimension and head another direction. I now can warn of very bad/ugly situations that could arise as a result of 3d coaching implementation. I am choosing to keep an open mind about what good God is bringing about from these struggles. My warning to those out there is to coach 3 Dimensionally with seriousness, alertness, much forethought, and very carefully laid framework. I trust the Lord is working even though I couldn't see or feel it, nor would I imagine any others could see it or feel it themselves. So to conclude I'd suggest a very careful, thought out process to slowly implement the 3rd dimension to the OYB program. It may be wise to have a series of discussions with the Olivet Youth Basketball Board members before any 3rd dimension strategies are implemented by volunteers and coaches.