

Only in baseball will you find a term that represents one of the greatest qualities found in humans. I'm talking about the "sacrifice." The sacrifice bunt, or the sacrifice fly, is used to improve the position of another player on the team by letting yourself be put out. What a concept! Now here's a real life example.

Arthur Ashe was an American professional tennis player. He won three Grand Slam titles, ranking him among the best tennis players in the world. Arthur Ashe was also the first African American ever to win the singles title at Wimbledon, the US Open, and the Australian Open.

But what most people don't know is that none of that would have ever happened had it not been for the sacrifice of his older brother Johnnie Ashe who was serving in the Vietnam War. The US military had a policy that prevented more than one son from the same family from serving at the same time. After Johnnie Ashe finished his first tour in Vietnam, his younger brother Arthur was suddenly in danger of being sent to Vietnam.

Without telling his brother, Johnnie Ashe volunteered to serve a second tour of Vietnam so that Arthur could stay home and continue his tennis career. Only their father was told the truth.

To sacrifice something of value for another person's good is the highest level of serving. It requires taking our eyes off our self and being more concerned about someone else. Where are you willing to make a sacrifice to meet the needs of others? Who are you willing to put ahead of yourself today.

LEARNING OBJECTIVE:

The student will understand personal sacrifice and putting others first.

INSTRUCTIONS: Distribute the handout to students after viewing the video. Invite students to share their answers to question #1 only.

CLASS DISCUSSION POINTS

1. What does it mean to sacrifice something for another person?
2. What examples of personal sacrifice have you witnessed?
3. How do most people react when they realize someone has put their needs first?
4. Why don't more people sacrifice for others?

1

What personal qualities do you see in people who make sacrifices for others? What do you admire most?

Shared answer

2

Who has made significant personal sacrifices for you during your life? When? How do you feel about it?

Private answer