

ONE MINUTE MESSAGE

LOSING BY INTIMIDATION (1 John 4:4)

Some 80 years ago, as Notre Dame was preparing to play USC in college football, Fighting Irish coach Knute Rockne was aware that his opponent had a far better team, so he devised a plan to intimidate the Trojan players.

Rockne scoured the city of South Bend and hand-picked 100 of the largest men he could find—each at least six-foot-five and three hundred pounds. He put them in Fighting Irish

uniforms and at game time marched them onto the field ahead of the real team. (Obviously, this was before the days of limited rosters and eligibility restrictions.)

As USC watched these giants line up on the sidelines, they forgot about their talent and their undefeated record, and they began mentally preparing themselves for a beating. Though none of the specially recruited men played during the game, their presence on the sidelines was enough to knock Southern Cal's concentration off balance. Knute Rockne's trick had worked; he had intimidated the Trojan players into giving up before the game even started. As a result, Notre Dame won.

Our opponent tries a similar trick. He intimidates us by appearing larger than life—but we must remember that he, too, has been sidelined. John said, "Greater is he that is in you than he that is in the world." (1 John 4:4)

Don't let your problems intimidate you. No matter how big the enemy may appear to be, remember that you have God's power on your side. And he is greater. • Steve May



Project Brasil is a Christian ministry located in Rio de Janeiro, Brasil, devoted to bringing the gospel of Christ to poor communities. We offer English courses, computer classes, job training, children's activities, medical care and spiritual help.

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