

Guest article...

TEAMWORK

IT'S THE TEAM THAT COUNTS

Recently the world has experienced the mania of the World Cup. 40% of the world was tuned into the World Cup or Mondial. It seemed like all the world's wars, troubles and problems were cast aside; nothing else seemed to count.

An interesting analogy came to mind. Messi, one of the world's best soccer players for Argentina, was not able to get his team past several games and they ultimately lost. Ronaldo from Portugal, who also is one the best soccer players in the world, could not get his team into the final draw. Likewise, Neymar from Brazil, could not succeed in getting his team into the finals. Switching sports, LeBron James in basketball, who just signed a \$200 million contract with Los Angeles and probably the world's best basketball player, could not win the NBA championship with his Cleveland team this year.

The lesson is - it depends also on the team and teamwork that counts. Team play is the key to inning. An analogy can be made when davening in a shul with a minyan (a team of ten men).

Certainly, an individual praying fervently is important and necessary, but the greatest impact is when the

entire minyan is tuned into prayer with no talking, praying slowly with feeling and answering Amein, when appropriate. It is not enough that the individual prays well, but the whole minyan together, as a team, should be tuned into a slow paced, respectful response.

Therefore, one should try to pray with a minyan in the morning that does not pray in "Olympic Times" of 20, 25 and 30 minutes, but adds additional time to show real good championship team work.

G-D BLESS US ALL

Translated from my Rabbi
by David J. Abels, M.D.)