



Tennessee Fury Basketball Program is a faith based AAU basketball organization founded to physically and spiritually impact youth in the Knoxville community through competitive athletics.

## Value #4: Heart

### Play with your whole heart, live from your whole heart

When the Butler Bulldogs tip off against UConn tonight in the NCAA Men's Division I Basketball finals, a lot of questions will remain unanswered. Questions like: Does a "mid-major" have what it takes to beat the "big guys" ? Can a balanced team of Butler scorers overcome the superstar impact of UConn's Kimbo Walker?

One question that will NOT be on everyone's mind is this: *Will Butler come to the game ready to play?* Butler's intensity is unquestionable. Their half-court defense is tenacious. Their hustle to the boards and to the loose ball is unmatched by any other team. Against VCU, in the national semifinals, Butler allowed 0 fast-break points. That's 0 points allowed in transition against an athletic, up-tempo VCU team.



Butler's players have an advantage on other teams. They have a secret weapon: their hearts. They **play with their whole hearts**. Butler, win or lose tonight, will be remembered for laying everything on the line to become a team that has achieved unpredictable and unprecedented greatness. In a state where the universities of Indiana, Purdue, and Notre Dame have decades of basketball tradition, it is Butler who is the first team from Indiana to go to back-to-back national championship games.

The game of basketball was meant to be played from their heart. Teams who take the court with a sense of urgency have a great advantage. Life is the same way. God designed you to live your life with you whole-heart. You were created to live with passion, urgency, and excitement about the new adventures God has for you each day. He made you with unique gifts and talents that, when applied with your whole-heart, will make a significant impact on the people around you.

To get the most out of basketball, **play with your whole heart**; to get the most out of life **live from your whole heart**. Living from your whole heart requires that you follow the God who created you to live with purpose and passion. Let God coach you today on how to use your secret weapon for impact: the heart He has made for you in Christ.

People will talk for years about the heart of the Butler Bulldogs--wouldn't it be great if people talked that way about you? Pray that God will describe you the way that He talked about a the young leader Caleb in Numbers 14:24: "My servant Caleb has a different spirit and follows me wholeheartedly."