Whatever they think of the Gospel, most people have an outdoor activity they love — hiking, soccer, kayaking or even just talking with friends around a campfire. That’s why sports and recreation ministries open so many doors.

As a missionary, you get to invite people to do something you both already enjoy. And in that casual environment, it’s easy to build natural relationships that lead to Gospel conversations. From summer camps to pro sports teams, there is a world of possibilities in sports and recreation ministry!

“\text{I have just hours to talk to people, and they often will ask, ‘Well, who are you? What do you do?’ … And right there, I’ve got an open door to begin sharing the Gospel.’}\\ —\text{Steve Dresselhaus}\\ \text{TEAM kayaking missionary in Mexico}

\text{HOW MUCH TIME DO I HAVE TO COMMIT FOR SPORTS AND RECREATION MINISTRY?}\\ Sports and recreation is one of the most versatile ministry types in regard to lengths of service. Spend your vacation as a counselor at a weeklong camp, or spend the whole year organizing a summer full of camps. If you have longer to give, you could serve as a sports team coach or lead a year-round recreational club.

\text{ARE SPORTS AND RECREATION MINISTRIES JUST FOR KIDS? CAN I USE THEM TO REACH ADULTS?}\\ When it comes to sports and recreation ministry, many people think about coaching Christian little league teams or hosting a kids’ summer camp. But the possibilities stretch to every age group.

Some missionaries coach competitive sports teams for adults, giving them the chance to pour into athletes and their families. Some serve as directors of retreat centers, leading spiritual getaways for local church groups. Some reach out through casual recreation, such as kayaking, scuba diving and biking. Sports and recreation ministry is all about sharing the Savior’s love through the activities you enjoy.

\text{WHAT IF I’M NOT AN ATHLETE?}\\ Then you can still serve by organizing programs, providing medical care to athletes, counseling kids at camp and more. If you have a passion for sports and recreation, God can use you.