

The Big Game:

Growing up in Southwest Iowa, the fall season lasted much longer than it does here in Okoboji. Because of the pleasant weather, Thanksgiving at our house meant three things, Macy's parade, Mom's homemade stuffing, and a football game with the kids from around the section. We lived out in the country so our neighbor kids would come on four -wheelers, bikes, mopeds, and cars.

Like the different items on the dinner table, the players and the homes from which they came were just as diverse. As ability goes, we had speed, size, strength, but never being possessed by the same individual or team. Somehow, on that bumpy/sloping field, the matchup seemed to be pretty well balanced. Both teams always seemed to have just what they needed to play a good game.

I am thankful for those memories because playing with the neighbors taught us so many lessons and social skills. But more important, I learned a lesson about God's provision. No matter what type of home-life, no matter the mode of transportation, regardless of ability, we were all invited to be a part of that community. I feel that today in world that can argue over anything, we need to sit down, have a good meal, have fellowship, and praise God for all that we have. My hope as we enter the holiday season, is that we see the blessings in all things and all people.

Colossians 3:15 "Let the peace in Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of the one body you were called to peace. And be thankful."

Written by: Josh Carr

