

News Story Summary

On December 28, 2021, the famed player, coach, and TV commentator John Madden passed away at age 85. Shortly after his death, sports fans, fellow commentators, coaches, and the general public started pouring out remembrances of the larger-than-life man. In many of the social media posts, news articles, and interviews, friends and co-workers called him a humble man even after reaching the pinnacle of popularity. He took the time to talk to people who spotted him in restaurants and other places while he was on the road. One of his most-repeated quotes goes as follows: "Self-praise is for losers. Be a winner. Stand for something. Always have class and be humble."

For more about this story, search "John Madden remembered as humble".

Focus Attention

To replace the Begin idea under Focus Attention, recall the story of John Madden's death in December 2021. Ask: *How would you describe John Madden? What will he be most be remembered for?* Allow adults to share their answers. Invite volunteers who watched any of the tributes to share their impressions. Highlight the quote: Self-praise is for losers. Be a winner. Stand for something. Always have class and be humble. Invite the group to share the challenges of remaining humble. Explain that today's lesson focuses on a well-known person whose failure to remain humble would cost him.

Summarize and Challenge

To supplement the Review activity under Summarize and Challenge, recall the story of John Madden's passing and him being remembered as a humble man even at the height of his popularity. Focus on the quote: Self-praise is for losers. Be a winner. Stand for something. Always have class and be humble." Lead the group to determine ways in which today's study affirms or refutes the quote. Complete the step as written.