

The Price of a Playoff

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This time of year is known for Playoff football. 46 league games coming down to two legs to earn a spot in a one off match where the winner takes all. Form and money goes out the window and all hopes of promotion rest on the 18 match day players for each squad.

What is the greatest playoff moment you have seen?

Do you think the playoff format is a good system or do you have a better suggestion for deciding who gets promoted?

The single match can be the difference in millions of pounds. With the Championship playoff final last year being worth a reported £200million to the team that won.

Aside from the money there will also be a number of jobs on the line depending on who gets promoted and who stays down. With the value of being promoted so high the demand and pressure on the players and coaches are higher as well.

Who do you want to win the playoffs (either Championship, League 1, League 2 or other)?

The allure of promotion also leads to many teams spending a lot of money throughout the year in order to try and secure promotion. However, money can't always guarantee success in football (look at Aston Villa this season for an example). And the more money your team spends without achieving promotion then the less financially stable your team often becomes and soon your team can move from one looking to get promoted to one fighting for survival as the financial repercussions hit.

As a fan would you want your team to put its financial stability at risk for the gamble of promotion?

In the Bible (Matthew 13) we read about a merchant who found a pearl that he really wanted. His desire for this pearl was so much that he was willing to sell all his possessions in order to buy it.

What are your opinions of the merchant doing this?

Is there something of great value that you really want and would be willing to sacrifice a lot for?

At the start of this story from the Bible we are told that the pearl represents the kingdom of heaven; meaning the value/reward of heaven is so great that it should be more important than anything and everything we have now.

Jesus says that He is 'the way' (John 14) and that no one gets to heaven except through Him.

The offer is there for all of us to be in relationship with Jesus and as a result get to heaven; do you want to?