

Faith Guides Boston Celtics Head Coach Joe Mazzulla

It is hard enough preparing a professional basketball team for the grueling schedule of an NBA Finals run, but for Boston Celtics head coach Joe Mazzulla, the press' obsession with his skin color is an extra factor that he must endure.

During the team's practice on Saturday, Mazzulla was questioned about his feelings regarding facing Jason Kidd, another Black head coach, in the NBA Finals. This marked the first occasion since 1975 that the Finals featured two Black head coaches.

Mazzulla, who has been very vocal and forthright about his faith in Jesus and the importance it plays in his life, had no time for the racially charged question from Vince Goodwill with Yahoo Sports.

"I wonder how many of those had been Christian coaches," Mazzulla replied.

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The silence in the press room that followed Mazzulla's response was deafening, and he appeared to lock eyes with multiple reporters as he looked around for anyone willing to respond to his thoughts on the matter.

Even as Mazzulla's Boston Celtics hold a 2-0 series lead over the Western Conference Champion Dallas Mavericks, he refuses to lose sight of the most important aspect of his life, and that is his faith in Jesus Christ.

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Mazzulla's refusal to bend to the divisive rhetoric of the world is a breath of fresh air, especially since he replaces it with the truth of a new identity meant for good works in Christ Jesus as Paul writes about in Ephesians 2:10:

For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, so that we should walk in them.

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