

Series “Ministry For Difficult Times”
“The Courageous Christian”
2 Timothy 2:1-7
Study-3

2 Tim 1 – A Charge To Guard The Gospel: (Hold On To It)

2 Tim 2 – A Charge To Suffer For The Gospel: (Teach It)

Key Thought: “Committed Disciple Reproduces Himself, Like A Soldier Voluntarily Suffers, Like An Athlete Follows Rules, Like A Farmer Works Hard”

1. Verses 1-2 – Teacher Making Disciples:

2. Verses 3-4 – Soldier Suffering Hardships:

3. Verse 5 – Athlete Following The Rules:

4. Verse 6 – Farmer Is Hard-Working:

5. Verse 7 – Understanding The Lord:

1. Verses 1-2 – Teacher Making Disciples:

2 Tim 2:1

“my son,” – Literally – “to give birth, bear a child; denotes a relationship of nature.” Timothy was a true child of the faith. 1 Timothy 1:2

2 Timothy 1:5

Command To The True Child: “be strong” – Literally “keep on being strong” to make strong, to receive strength, be strengthened.

The Enablement: “in the grace”

2 Tim 2:2

2 Marks Of A Good Teacher:

1. A Good Teacher Has Received The Message Of Truth: “And the things which you have heard from me”

Galatians 1:11-12

2 Timothy 1:13-14

1 John 4:6

2. A Good Teacher Passes The Message On: “these entrust to faithful men,”

“faithful” – “believing, trustworthy, reliable, those marked by a genuine faith in Jesus” 1 Tim 1:12; 2 Tim 2:13

“Man Of God” and goes on to describe what a man of God is. 1 Tim 6:11

One Must Be Reliable – “to faithful men,” – 1 Corinthians 4:1-2

One Must Be Capable Of Teaching Others: “who will be able to teach others also.”

2. Verses 3-4 – Soldier Suffering Hardships:

2 Tim 2:3

2 Timothy 1:8

Hardship – “to suffer evil, to suffer trouble, to endure affliction”

Soldier – “warrior, a fighter” 1 Timothy 1:18

Soldier Warfare – Eph 6:10-20 Christian Life Is Warfare!

Soldiers Are Under Authority – “Military Structure”, “Para-Military Structures”

3 Marks Of A Good Soldier:

1. A Good Soldier Endures Hardships: “Suffer hardship with me, as a good soldier”

2 Tim 2:4

2. A Good Soldier Is Detached From Everyday Affairs: “No soldier in active service entangles himself in the affairs of everyday life,”

“entangles himself” – “to weave, entwine, to be involved with”
Deut 24:5

3. A Good Soldier Seeks To Please His Commander: “so that he may please the one who enlisted him as a soldier.”

“the one who enlisted him” (Can Serve Only One Master)

Galatians 1:10

Gen 5:22; Hebrews 11:5

3. Verse 5 – Athlete Following The Rules:

2 Tim 2:5

3 Marks Of A Good Athlete:

1. Athlete's Must Struggle With Great Determination: "competes as an athlete" – "competition, contest, one who contends, to wrestle, struggle a struggle that requires great determination to win"
2. Athletes Contend For The Prize: "win the prize"
3. Athlete Must Abide By The Rules: "unless he competes according to the rules."

Basic Rules Of Christianity – We must be born again, faithful in obedience to God's Word, dependence upon God thru prayer, deny self, live to please God.

Ministry Requires Single Minded Devotion To God: John 14:15

Self Discipline of Training: 1 Corinthians 9:24-27

2 Timothy 4:7-8

4. Verse 6 – Farmer Is Hard-Working:

2 Tim 2:6

2 Marks Of A Good Farmer:

1. The Farmer Must Labor At His Task: hard-working – "to become weary, tired, to work hard to toil, to strive, to struggle"

Farming Depends On Sweat As It Does Skill:

Lazy Persons Don't Make Good Farmers: Proverbs 10:5

Proverbs 20:4

Proverbs 24:30-34

Christian's Life Of Service: "hard-working" – Acts 6:4

1 Timothy 5:17

2. The Farmer Receives Priority Of Reward: “ought to be the first to receive his share of the crops.”

Harvest Of Holiness – Gal 5:16; 6:8

Harvest Of Wining of Converts – Matthew 9:37-38

Romans 1:13

1 Corinthians 3:6-7

5. Verse 7 – Understanding The Lord:

2 Tim 2:7

We Are To Ponder the Teaching: “Consider what I say,” – the word consider – “think over, or reflect on” pray, seek God for understanding.

We Are To Seriously Study: “Consider what I say,”

“for the Lord will give you understanding in everything.” – Note that if we will ponder, study, God will give understanding. Not our study but the Lord.

Application:

1. Like A Teacher – Am I Preserving The Truth, And Passing It On?
2. Like A Soldier – Am I Willing To Suffer Hardships? Keeping A Distance Between Self And The Affairs Of The World So I Can Please The Lord?
3. Like An Athlete – In The Competition, Am I Determined And Willing To Struggle, Play By The Rules That I Might Win The Prize?
4. Like A Farmer – Am I Willing To Put In The Hard, Tedious And Sometimes Boring Work Needed To Achieve The Harvest?