

Building Strong means---I NEED TO BE THE BEST I CAN BE

Part 1--"The Soldier"

2 Tim 2:3-7

Bro. Mark Winn, FBC Coahoma, 10/11/15am

2 Peter 1:5-8 (CEV) *"DO YOUR BEST to improve your faith. You can do this by adding goodness, understanding, self-control, patience, devotion to God, concern for others, and love. If you keep growing in this way, it will show that . . . Christ has made your lives useful and meaningful."*

HOW DO I GIVE MY BEST TO GOD?

2 Timothy 2:3-7 (NIV/LB) *"Endure hardship with us like a GOOD SOLDIER of Christ Jesus. No one serving as a soldier gets tied up in civilian affairs—he wants to please his commanding officer. Similarly, if anyone competes as AN ATHLETE, he does not receive the victor's crown unless he competes according to the rules. And the HARDWORKING FARMER should be the first to receive a share of the crops. Think about these three illustrations, and the Lord will help you to understand how they apply to you."*

LESSONS FROM THE MILITARY LIKE AN EFFECTIVE SOLDIER, I MUST . . .

1. I MUST DEFINE WHAT I'D _____

John 15:13 (LB) *"The greatest love is shown when a person lays down his life for his friends."*

The greater the sacrifice, the deeper the love

2. I MUST SACRIFICE MY _____.

2 Timothy 2:3 *"Endure hardship with us like a good soldier of Christ Jesus."*

Ephesians 5:2 *"Live a life of sacrificial love just like Christ loved us and gave himself as an offering and sacrifice for us."*

The greater the sacrifice in life the greater your character in life is.

3. I MUST ELIMINATE _____

2 Timothy 2:4 (NIV/NLT) *"As Christ's soldier, do not let yourself become entangled in the affairs of this life, wasting time, for then you can't please your commanding officer who enlisted you in his army."*

What could you give up TODAY to be all you can be?

2 PROMISES OF JESUS

Luke 6:38 (ICB) *"Give, and it will be given back to you. You will be given much. It will be poured into your hands—more than you can hold. You will be given so much that it will spill into your lap. The way you give to others is the way God will give to you."*

Mark 10:29-30 *Jesus said, "I guarantee you this: Anyone who gives up anything for my sake and the Good News—whether a home or a family member or property—will get MORE THAN THAT BACK, multiplied a HUNDREDFOLD, and in the world to come they will be given life forever!"*