- I. Depend on the Lord for ability to serve (1–2)
 - A. He can prepare you for your challenges (1)
 - B. He can equip you for your assignment (2)
- II. Depend on the Lord for endurance to serve (3–6)
 - A. Resist distractions like a soldier (3-4)
 - B. Embrace discipline like an athlete (5)
 - C. Exert effort like a farmer (6)
- III. Depend on the Lord for discernment to serve (7)
 - A. Meditate on the Scriptures (7a)
 - B. Anticipate divine insight (7b)