

Sermon Series: "Setting the Table for Thanksgiving" Enlisting for Service Summary

2 Timothy 2:1-7

Summary: This sermon will draw the attention of the audience to examine the comparison and contrast of a one who serves as a soldier in the United State's military to a soldier of Jesus Christ. We will examine five expectations of a good soldier and move people to a deeper devotion and respect for the Savior.

Read Romans 5:6-8

Romans 5:6-8 – You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Five Expectations of a Good Soldier

Expectation #1 – One Must Volunteer

- This main point will focus on the comparison of a soldier volunteering for his or her country and a soldier of Christ volunteering his or her service for the Savior.
- *Why would you choose to volunteer? For Freedom*
- **2 Peter 3:8-9** – ⁸But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. ⁹The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.
- **Galatians 5:1** – It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

Expectation #2 – One Must Have Complete Faith

- This main point will focus on the comparison of a soldier having faith in his or her government to provide for their needs and a soldier of Christ completely relying on the Savior to provide what will be needed for his or her survival.
- *Why would you choose to have complete faith? Provision*
- **Matthew 6:31-34** – So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' ³²For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. ³³But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. ³⁴Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

Expectation #3 – One Must Be Completely Committed

- This main point will focus on the comparison of the commitment of soldier fulfilling his or her duty for their country and a soldier of Christ being completely committed to serving Jesus Christ and His Kingdom.
- *Why would you choose complete commitment? Judgment*
- **Matthew 6:24** – "No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money."

- **Romans 14:11-12** – It is written: “‘As surely as I live,’ says the Lord, ‘every knee will bow before me; every tongue will confess to God.’” So then, each of us will give an account of himself to God.

Expectation #4 – One Must Completely Obey

- This main point will focus on the comparison of a soldier completely obeying orders given by his or her commanding officer and a soldier of Christ completely obeying the commands of the God.
- *Why would you choose complete obedience? Joy*
- **John 15:10-11** – If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father’s commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

Expectation #5 – One Must Be Completely Devoted

- This main point will focus on the comparison of a soldier being completely devoted to his or her country and a soldier of Christ being completely devoted to Him and His Kingdom.
- *Why would you choose complete devotion? There is No Other Way*
- **John 14:6** – Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”
- **John 3:16** – “For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.”

MEMORY VERSE:

John 14:6 – Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

