

Lesson 9 Handout: Images of Service (II Timothy 2:1-13)

Objectives (the student will be able to...)

- List the three archetypes of spiritual service and their associated attributes (from the text)
- List two specific examples and the inference to imitate them
- Plan to make personal application(s) based on the attributes they study in the chapter (personal reflection)

Outline of 2 Timothy 2:1-12 (Read the text at least once at home)

- Exhortation to Timothy (2:1-2)
- Three Archetypes to emulate (2:3-7)
 - Soldier (2:3-4)
 - Athlete (2:5)
 - Farmer (2:6)
- Two specific examples to emulate (2:8-10)
 - Jesus Christ
 - Paul
- A trustworthy saying (2:11-13)

Questions on the Text (Covered in class, familiarize at home)

- Exhortation to Timothy (2:1-2)
 - What is Paul's exhortation to Timothy?
 - What is the qualifier for men to be able to teach in verse 2? Why is that important?
 - Where is Timothy likely to have heard from Paul "in the presence of many witnesses"?
- Three archetypes to emulate (2:3-7)
 - Soldier
 - What does civilian pursuits imply about other kinds of pursuits?
 - What is the aim of a good soldier?
 - Athlete
 - What goal is the athlete working towards?
 - Why are rules needed in a competition?
 - Farmer
 - What adjective is used to describe a farmer?
 - What does the farmer "ought to have"?
- Two specific examples of hardship/self-denial to imitate (2:8-13)
 - Jesus Christ
 - What was Jesus subjected to and what was his reward?
 - Paul
 - How is Paul suffering in these verses? What does he contrast this with?
 - Why does Paul endure suffering?
 - A trustworthy saying (2:11-13)
 - What are the promises in this saying?
 - In what ways can we deny him (Jesus)?

2 You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, **2** and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, [] who will be able to teach others also. **3** Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. **4** No soldier gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to please the one who enlisted him. **5** An athlete is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules. **6** It is the hard-working farmer who ought to have the first share of the crops. **7** Think over what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding in everything. **8** Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, the offspring of David, as preached in my gospel, **9** for which I am suffering, bound with chains as a criminal. But the word of God is not bound! **10** Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory. **11** The saying is trustworthy, for: If we have died with him, we will also live with him; **12** if we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he also will deny us; **13** if we are faithless, he remains faithful—for he cannot deny himself.

Group Activity Handout

Prompt: List 10 adjectives/characteristics/observations that are associated with a good soldier/a competitive athlete/a hardworking farmer.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for students to write their responses to the prompt.

(Hint 1: put the soldier in a few different scenarios, what does the athlete need to win the crown, what does the farmer have to rely on the most?)

(Hint 2: Recall Biblical characters or passages that talk about soldiers/athletics/farmers)

Reflections - Section A

Select from (1-5) for the spiritual skills/traits (write or tick in boxes)

reading the Bible for comprehension					
memorizing the Bible					
listening to preaching					
singing & learning new songs					
Bible study/research					
personal prayer					
inviting others to study or worship					
caring for children, for sick, for the elderly					
preparing/organizing class material					
encouraging spiritually weak					
assessing the spiritual needs of others					
refuting error					
teaching children					
teaching adults					
leading singing					
counseling others					

Section B

1. We discussed numerous qualities as it applies to a soldier, athlete and a farmer. What are some qualities from those lists and the list above where you are falling short? What changes can you begin to make in your life in God's grace to grow to attain these qualities?