A GOOD SOLDIER OF JESUS

2 TIMOTHY 2:1-13

January **February** March April May June July August September October November

December

Strengthened in Grace **Entrust to Faithful Men Share in Suffering Entangled in Civilian Pursuits** Please the Enlisting Officer **Sports and Rules Hard-Working Farmers** The Lord Will Give You Remember Your King **Enduring Everything** The Saying is Trustworthy He Remains Faithful





ENTRUST TO FAITHFUL MEN





THE CONTEXT

- Paul and Timothy had a close and loving relationship is fellow workers in God's kingdom.
- There was also a cross-generational aspect to this relationship.
- Both of these men also happened to be preachers of the Word of God.

THE CONTEXT

- Not everyone is a preacher. However, we should look at this passage through another lens: that of discipleship.
- Are you a disciple of Jesus? If yes, then this passage applies to you.

ARMIES ON THE FIELD

- This year's theme is about being "A Good Soldier of Jesus."
- That means we should be looking at this with a militaristic perspective.
- Picture the scene: there are two armies drawn up for battle on the field.

ARMIES ON THE FIELD

- They come together in the clash of melee.
- A soldier on one side falls. Instead of staying dead, he rises, and fights for the side that used to be his enemy.
- This is the picture of spiritual warfare in the Bible.

"For though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ, being ready to punish every disobedience, when your obedience is complete."

-2 Corinthians 10:3-6

"He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins."

-Colossians 1:13-14

ARMIES ON THE FIELD

- Jesus has already won the war, but it's up to us to fight the battles.
- We take inspiration and direction from the armies of Israel during the Conquest.
- "God has already given you victory, but you have to go and grasp of it."

"When you go out to war against your enemies, and see horses and chariots and an army larger than your own, you shall not be afraid of them, for the LORD your God is with you, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt. And when you draw near to the battle, the priest shall come forward and speak to the people and shall say to them, Hear, O Israel, today you are drawing near for battle against your enemies: let not your heart faint. Do not fear or panic or be in dread of them, for the LORD your God is he who goes with you to fight for you against your enemies, to give you the victory."

-Deuteronomy 20:1-4

GENERAL ORDERS

- You don't have to be a preacher (or an elder) to be able to teach people the Gospel's message.
- Aquila and Priscilla managed to start at least two churches without the help of apostles.
- We have a standing General Order from God.
 That's to expand the Kingdom.

GENERAL ORDERS

- We do this by making more disciples (Matthew 28:19).
- We also do this by training and equipping more preachers.

"How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, 'How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!"

-Romans 10:14-15

GENERAL ORDERS

- I'm certainly not discounting the role of preachers in the Kingdom, or the desperate need to train new ones.
- What if you are the faithful person?
- Doesn't the preacher entrust you with these things?