

March 11, 2020
“The Importance of Commitment”
2 Timothy 2:3-7
David Self

“Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. ⁴ No one serving as a soldier gets entangled in the concerns of civilian life; he seeks to please the recruiter. ⁵ Also, if anyone competes as an athlete, he is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules. ⁶ The hardworking farmer ought to be the first to get a share of the crops. ⁷ Consider what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding in everything.” (2 Timothy 2:3-7)

I. A Good Soldier

“Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus” (3)

- A. Count the cost**
- B. Recognize winning**
- C. Persevere to the finish**

II. An Athlete with Integrity

“Also, if anyone competes as an athlete, he is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules” (5) William Barclay (The Letters to Timothy, Titus and Philemon, pp. 161-162)

- A. Discipline is a key to Discipleship**
- B. The Inside is more Important than the Outside**

III. A Hardworking Farmer

“The hardworking farmer ought to be first to get a share of the crops. Consider what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding in everything” (7)

- A. Hard Work isn't Clock Watching**

B. Farmers understand the laws of the Harvest

C. First Fruits may be Literal

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