



B. The reward the farmer receives is the first share of the harvest of new Christians.

2 Timothy 2:1-7 – Spiritual Strength

February 7, 2021

*You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus...
2 Timothy 2:1 (ESV)*

*For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.
2 Corinthians 12:10 (ESV)*

...but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint. Isaiah 40:31 (ESV)

Life Group Questions

1. Review your sermon notes and the above sermon outline. What stood out in this message? What did you learn you didn't know?
2. What is the most helpful way you have found to grow strong in the grace of Christ: Prayer, Bible Reading, Listening To Sermons, Meeting With Other Christians, Worship Music, Reading Solid Christian Books?
3. Read 2 Timothy 2:2. Why are many pastors and leaders not in the practice of having a small group of next generation leaders they intentionally develop? Why is it important for everyone, not just church leaders, to find others they can mentor to be leaders for Jesus in the next generation?
4. Using the three metaphors of the soldier, the athlete, and the farmer, what do each of these metaphors teach us about the Christian life? What are the challenges of the Christian life these metaphors reveal? What rewards to the Christian life do these metaphors promise?
5. Paul points out that a good soldier does not entangle himself in civilian affairs. What is the difference between entangling ourselves in the affairs of life and being involved in the community so we can reach people with Jesus?

How do I develop spiritual strength?

1. I am to see myself as a teacher of teachers.

...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. 2 Timothy 2:2 (ESV)

A. Invest my life into faithful men.

B. Invest my life in men who will be able to teach.

CrossWinds Fingerprint — 5. We believe God called us to not just be disciples but to make disciples.

2. I am to see myself as a soldier.

Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. No soldier gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to please the one who enlisted him. 2 Timothy 2:3–4 (ESV)

A. I am to not get entangled in civilian pursuits.

B. I am to be an excellent soldier.

C. As a soldier, I am to take my share of sufferings.

D. As a soldier, I am to please my commanding officer.

3. I am to see myself as an athlete.

An athlete is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules. 2 Timothy 2:5 (ESV)

A. I am to give my best in training for Christ and living for Christ.

Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable.
1 Corinthians 9:24–25 (ESV)

B. I am to compete according to the rules if I want to obtain a reward.

Watch yourselves, so that you may not lose what we have worked for, but may win a full reward. 2 John 8 (ESV)

4. I am to see myself as a farmer.

It is the hard-working farmer who ought to have the first share of the crops. 2 Timothy 2:6 (ESV)

A. I am to expect long hours and hard work, where the results are only seen over time.