

Secrets from the Battlefield, the Ballfield, and a Corn Field!

2 Timothy 1:1-8 (HCSB)

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by God's will, for the promise of life in Christ Jesus: ² To Timothy, my dearly loved son. Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. ³ I thank God, whom I serve with a clear conscience as my ancestors did, when I constantly remember you in my prayers night and day. ⁴ Remembering your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy, ⁵ clearly recalling your sincere faith that first lived in your grandmother Lois, then in your mother Eunice, and that I am convinced is in you also. ⁶ Therefore, I remind you to keep ablaze the gift of God that is in you through the laying on of my hands. ⁷ For God has not given us a spirit of fearfulness, but one of power, love, and sound judgment. ⁸ So don't be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord, or of me His prisoner. Instead, share in suffering for the gospel, relying on the power of God.

2 Timothy 2:1-6 (HCSB)

You, therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. ² And what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, commit to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. ³ 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.

Have you ever considered the fact that perhaps the greatest thing you might do with your life is pour into a future leader?

- Pour into your kids. (Psalm 78:4-8)
- Ladies, pour into other ladies. (Titus 2)
- Men, invest in younger men.

- 1. Stay focused. (2 Timothy 2:3-4)
- A good soldier expects difficulties, lives to please his commanding officer and stays focused on the mission.
- What are the good things in your life that are keeping you from the main things?
- 2. Stay fit. (2 Timothy 2:5)
 - Successful athletes compete by the rules, submit to their coach, and train to win.
 - To multiply spiritually I must <u>discover</u>, develop, and <u>deploy</u> my spiritual gifts. (2 Timothy 1:6)

I Timothy 4:7 (HCSB)

But have nothing to do with irreverent and silly myths. Rather, train yourself in godliness,

- One of the most important things a believer can do in their lives is develop his or her gifting.
- 3. Stay faithful. (2 Timothy 2:6)
 - To multiply spiritually you have to <u>commit</u> to faithfully do the work. (Galatians 6:7-9)

Spiritual multiplication takes:

Plowing - Consistent prayer for God to soften a heart.

Sowing - Consistent teaching the truths of God's word.

Watering - Consistent encouragement to stay in the fight.

Sunlight - Trusting in God's supernatural power to bring about the growth.

I Corinthians 3:6 (NIV)

I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow.