

Insta-Fam: A Good Soldier

2 Timothy 2 & 4

📖 Romans 12:15 (NIV) “...mourn with those who mourn.”

1. A Good Soldier inspires others.

📖 2 Timothy 2:1–2 (NIV) “You then, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. ² And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others.”

📖 2 Timothy 4:17 (NIV) “...the Lord stood at my side and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. And I was delivered from the lion’s mouth.”

📖 Ephesians 6:10 (NIV) “...be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power.”

📖 Philippians 4:13 (NIV) “I can do everything through Him who gives me strength.”

2. A Good Soldier endures difficulty.

📖 2 Timothy 2:3 (NIV) “Endure hardship with us like a good soldier of Christ Jesus.”

📖 Acts 14:21–22 (NIV) “They preached the good news in that city and won a large number of disciples. Then they returned to Lystra, Iconium and Antioch, ²² strengthening the disciples and encouraging them to remain true to the faith. “We must go through many hardships to enter the kingdom of God,” they said.”

📖 Hebrews 11:36–39 (NIV) “Some faced jeers and flogging, while still others were chained and put in prison. ³⁷ They were stoned; they were sawed in two; they were put to death by the sword. They went about in sheepskins and goatskins, destitute, persecuted and mistreated— ³⁸ the world was not worthy of them. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground. ³⁹ These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised.”

3. A Good Soldier avoids distraction.

📖 2 Timothy 2:4 (NIV) “No one serving as a soldier gets involved in civilian affairs—he wants to please his commanding officer.”

📖 Philemon 23–24 (NIV) “Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, sends you greetings. ²⁴ And so do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas and Luke, my fellow workers.”

📖 2 Timothy 4:9–10a (NIV) “Do your best to come to me quickly, ¹⁰ for Demas, because he loved this world, has deserted me and has gone to Thessalonica.”

4. A Good Soldier fights faithfully.

📖 Acts 20:24 (NCV) “I don’t care about my own life. The most important thing is that I complete my mission, the work that the Lord Jesus gave me—to tell people the Good News about God’s grace.”

📖 2 Timothy 4:7 (NIV) “I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.”

Digging Deeper: This weekend, as we remember the soldiers that have gone before us, let’s be mindful too of the little soldiers that are following after us. In what ways is our life inspiring them? Are we doing what we can to protect them? Are we saying what we need to say to prepare them? Are you enduring hardship and refusing to quit? Are you remaining faithful? Is your life pleasing to your commanding officer? Let’s die with our fatigues still on—Good Soldiers to the very end.