

Series Title:

“Passing the Torch of Truth”

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(An Exposition of the Book of II Timothy)

Harbour Shores Church

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Sermon Title:

“Enduring Hardship For Future Rewards”

(Part 2)

Sermon Text:

II Timothy 2:3-7

Introduction:

- *If we are going to be successful in carrying out the assignment that God has given to us, that of multiplying ourselves in others, then it will require at least three things:*

I. The Dedication Of A Soldier (2:3-4)

II. The _____ Of An _____ (2:5)

- *I Corinthians 9:24-27; Philipians 3:13-14; I Timothy 4:7-10; II Timothy 4:7-8; Hebrews 12:1-4*

- What is the meaning of the word translated “*competes*”?

- As “*Christian athletes*” at least three things are necessary in order to be successful in carrying out the assignment that God has given to us: _____, _____, and _____.

- *Matthew 16:24-26; Galatians 5:22-23; I Timothy 4:7*

“If athletes exert such an effort in order to win a ‘perishable wreath,’ how much more effort and determination should be exerted in order to win an ‘imperishable’ one?”

- The Greek word translated “*does not*” signifies an _____.
(*I Corinthians 3:15*)

- What was Paul referring to when he said, “*win the prize*”?

- *Hebrews 2:7-9; II Timothy 4:8; Philipians 3:14*

- What is the significance of the phrase “*unless he competes according to the rules*”?

*“When you add it all up, this is nothing less than a call for _____
from all true followers of Jesus Christ!”*

- *Our _____ determine our _____!*

III. The _____ Of A _____ (2:6)

- Unlike the soldier or the athlete, a farmer often works alone with no students to _____, no fellow soldiers to _____, and with no crowd in the stands to _____!
- *What drives the farmer to labor under such grueling, unpredictable conditions?*
- *“Like the hard-working farmer, faithful believers are promised God’s blessing and reward not only in this life but in that to come!”*
- The root word for the word translated “**hard-working**” is a word that means “_____ or _____,” “to toil _____, to sweat and strain to the point of _____.”
- *Colossians 1:28-29*

The business of making disciples is hard work, and yet this is the Christian farmer’s way of life!

- The phrase, “*ought to be the first to receive,*” has the idea of _____ or _____ in something. (*1 Corinthians 9:7*)

“Spiritual farmers get great joy out of seeing planted seeds bear fruit in the lives of others!”

Conclusion:

The common thread that runs through all of these analogies is that there is a _____ for those who endure _____! The **soldier** is upheld by the thought of _____! The **athlete** is upheld by the vision of the _____! And the **farmer** is upheld by the hope of the _____!

Such a life is not _____, but it is _____!!