

## Servant Soldiers! Part 2

**Last week...** We began looking at ourselves as Servant-Soldiers... ***Bought with a price... 1Cor6.20, 7.23***  
***Conscripted into an army, and the battle for the souls of mankind... Mt10/Lk10*** And that we stand, armored up/spirit... Between “minions of darkness” wanting to snare and carry off our loved ones... **Eph 6.12 2Tim 2.26**  
Under the direction of a thieving, murderous, roaring lion seeking whom he can devour... **John 10.10, 1Pet5.8**  
***Enduring hardness as a good soldier, not becoming entangled in the affairs of this life! 2Tim 2.1-7*** [Suffering hardships, enduring afflictions of soldiers, for no one on active duty, *executing the apostolate (mission)*, let’s himself get “tied up” in life...] ***Able, operating from a household that is strong!*** Married, married w/kids, divorced, divorced w/kids, single, widowed...

**Typically, the more stabilized you are, the more you resist being entangled... The more the “entanglements” will come, because you are more dangerous!**

**Nothing is more dangerous to our enemy than a person who will not be shaken off their mission!**

**Acts 2.42-47** “And they continued-steadfastly [constantly diligent to attend and adhere to – refused to faint] in the apostles doctrine (*foundations* being built individually and corporately) and fellowship [the right hand as a pledge of a share in partnership] (*connection*) and in breaking of bread (eating) and prayers *and fear came upon every soul!*

**It’s one thing to know about God, another thing to see Him working in your midst... thru you! It’s one thing to plan cell groups and another to be supernaturally caught up in a common mission!**

**Acts 2.42-47** “And many wonders [miracles] and signs [indications of the supernatural] were done by the apostles! And all that believed were together [epi/over – ho/the {masculine/feminine/neuter} – autos/self] and had all things common [unhallowed/profane/common]; and sold their possessions and goods and parted them [cut into pieces] as needed!

“and they continued [constantly diligent to attend and adhere to – refused to faint] *every day* with one accord [mind and passion] in the temple and breaking bread from house to house they ate together with gladness and singleness of heart. Praising God and having favor with all the people. *And the Lord added to the church daily such a should be saved!*

**This is a picture of the word empowered early church with people taking care for, and of, others! And it is the mission, a daily warfare, and a daily target, for every servant-soldier working for God! And servant-soldiers must keep their eyes on the prize as both the goal and resource of their simplicity!**

**Servant-Soldiers... *Must have the vision of a greater mission in life than themselves!*** Soldiers have always been visionaries! They see beyond themselves... Willing to lay down rights, even lives, for greater good of protecting/preserving! Soldiers bring uniqueness to the troop but give up their individual pursuits! Soldiers serve at the will of the Commander in Chief... His voice, not their own, directs/steps!

***Show up equipped for battle! Eph 6.13ff*** “Pick up the whole armor of God to [oppose] the evil [hurtful, vicious, malicious] day [the time to abstain from self-indulgence, vice and crime]... and [continue]... having your [creative power] fixed in place with truth, covering the [thorax: the chest portion that contains your heart and lungs] with righteousness [integrity, virtue, purity of life, rightness, correctness of thinking feeling, and acting],

“your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace... Not the gospel of “peace with God...” Don’t have a gospel of peace for man... But our feet are covered, by preparation, with the good news of peace... Not ‘captured’ to receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but to receive the Spirit of adoption...!” **R8.15**

**“Wise as serpents, harmless as doves...”**

“above all taking the shield [large door shaped shield] of faith, which is what you will use to quench the fiery [missiles] of the wicked [hurtful, vicious, malicious], and take the helmet of salvation [the protection/defense of the soul] and the sword of the spirit which is the Word of God and open conversation in the Spirit...”

**We don't assess and get ready... We don't come ready... We live ready... in a state of perpetual readiness!**

**Show up w/big equipment! 1Cor 12.7ff** “The manifestation [exhibition and expression] of the Spirit is given to every man to [bring it all together for the whole]. The Spirit gives one the word of wisdom, to another the word of knowledge, to another faith, to another gifts of healing, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discerning of spirits, to another different tongues, to another the interpretation but all of these work by the One Spirit who divides to every one as He wills.

**The Equipment... Usually classified as gifts of revelation, gifts of power, gifts of utterance...**

Revelation gifts: word of wisdom, word of knowledge, discerning of spirits.

Power: faith, healing, miracles.

Utterance: prophecy, tongues and interpretation.

**We are told to covet earnestly the best gifts... 12.31** The “Best” would likely be the most needed for the situation at hand???? Desiring the best gift... distributed by the Holy Spirit... Would lead us to believe that all of us, at any time, are candidates to “operate...” Which crosses the grain of common teachings that a person “has the gift of...”

Sceva's sons had the gift/ministry of casting out devils... bad turnout! Jesus, Paul, Peter, simple disciples... you, me all have the power to! **Mk 16.18** Limit yourself if you desire... but why?

**Servant-Soldiers...**

**Don't struggle for provision... They know they are not expected to go to war at their own expense/no stress...**

**Don't run from battle, they run to it! Don't stop unless mortally wounded... Don't stop for others who fall until secure! Don't lose their focus on the battlefield!** Head is on the field, not home... Stop to take pictures/stop to look at pictures... going to get shot!

**Our Mission As Servant-Soldiers...**

**We deliver the words of spirit and life! John 6.63 Romans 10.17** Hope that keeps people alive and faith that manifests life!

**We deliver resources! Mt10.1 Mk16.17ff** Like deliverance, healing!

**We deliver Salvation! Mk16.15 Rom1.16** Each of us must know how to bring people to the place of decision...

**We train hard, fight hard, lay down exhausted but accomplished!**