

Pastor Allen Jackson



I. Enlisting

A. Our Choices

2 Timothy 2:1-7 (NIV®)

¹ 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. ³ **Endure hardship with us like a good soldier of Christ Jesus.** ⁴ No one serving as a soldier gets involved in civilian affairs--he wants to please his commanding officer. ⁵ Similarly, if anyone competes as an athlete, he does not receive the victor's crown unless he competes according to the rules. ⁶ The hardworking farmer should be the first to receive a share of the crops. ⁷ Reflect on what I am saying, for the Lord will give you insight into all this.

B. God is Searching (recruiting)

2 Chronicles 16:9 (NIV®)

⁹ For the eyes of the LORD range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him.

- ❖ God delights to show Himself strong on behalf of someone enlisted in His service. An open manifestation of His power and approval in the life of that person brings glory to God. He is waiting to move on our behalf.

C. The Response of One

Exodus 15:22-25 (NIV®)

²² Then Moses led Israel from the Red Sea and they went into the Desert of Shur. For three days they traveled in the desert without finding water. ²³ When they came to Marah, they could not drink its water because it was bitter. (That is why the place is called Marah.) ²⁴ So the people grumbled against Moses, saying, "What are we to drink?" ²⁵ Then Moses cried out to the LORD, and the LORD showed him a piece of wood. He threw it into the water, and the water became sweet. There the LORD made a decree and a law for them, and there he tested them.

1 Samuel 17:36-37 (NIV®)

³⁶ Your servant has killed both the lion and the bear; this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, because he has defied the armies of the living God. ³⁷ The LORD who delivered me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine." Saul said to David, "Go, and the LORD be with you.

II. "Because You Prayed"

Isaiah 37:21-22 (NIV®)

²¹ Then Isaiah son of Amoz sent a message to Hezekiah: "This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says:

Because you have prayed to me concerning Sennacherib king of Assyria,²² this is the word the LORD has spoken against him: "The Virgin Daughter of Zion despises and mocks you. The Daughter of Jerusalem tosses her head as you flee.

Luke 11:9-10 (NIV®)

⁹ "So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. ¹⁰ For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened.

III. Our New Response — Let's Pray

Philippians 4:6-7 (NIV®)

⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but **in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.** ⁷ And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

- ❖ Almighty God we ask for Your help, in Jesus' name, amen.
- ❖ God give us Your wisdom, in Jesus' name, amen.
- ❖ Heavenly Father, thank You for watching over us! amen.

Luke 18:1 (NIV®)

¹ Then Jesus told his disciples a parable **to show them that they should always pray and not give up.**

PRAYER

Heavenly Father, I have followed You with reluctance and have often complained. I repent. I gladly yield to You and Your invitations in my life. Holy Spirit help me to learn the ways of God, give me an awareness of spiritual things beyond any I have known. I want to live in a way that brings honor to Jesus as my Lord and King, amen.

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