

An enduring ministry requires...

- A **strong**, growing relationship with Christ (1-7)
 - Teacher: **Multiplying** Christ's influence
 - Soldier: **Unwavering focus** on Christ
 - Athlete: **Integrity** in every endeavor
 - Farmer: **Hard Work** for the gospel
- An **ownership** and **passion** for the gospel (8-10)
- An understanding of God's **promises** (character) (11-13)

Questions for Discussion:

What kind of influences can tempt us as Christians to give in and give up?

What does it look like to obey Paul's command to "be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus?"

How "strong" are you today? How can we pray for you?

Who has been the most influential Christian teacher in your life?

What can you learn from them about you teaching others?

What are some unique aspects of a soldier's lifestyle?

How is the lifestyle Christ calls us to illustrated in a soldier's life?

What will it mean for you to be "good" soldier of Christ Jesus?

What are some ways an athlete could be disqualified from a contest?

What could disqualify us from the spiritual contest?

What are some of the distinctive features of a farmer's way of life?

How do these features find parallels to our life as Christians?

How can Jesus Christ's example encourage us as Christians to endure all things?