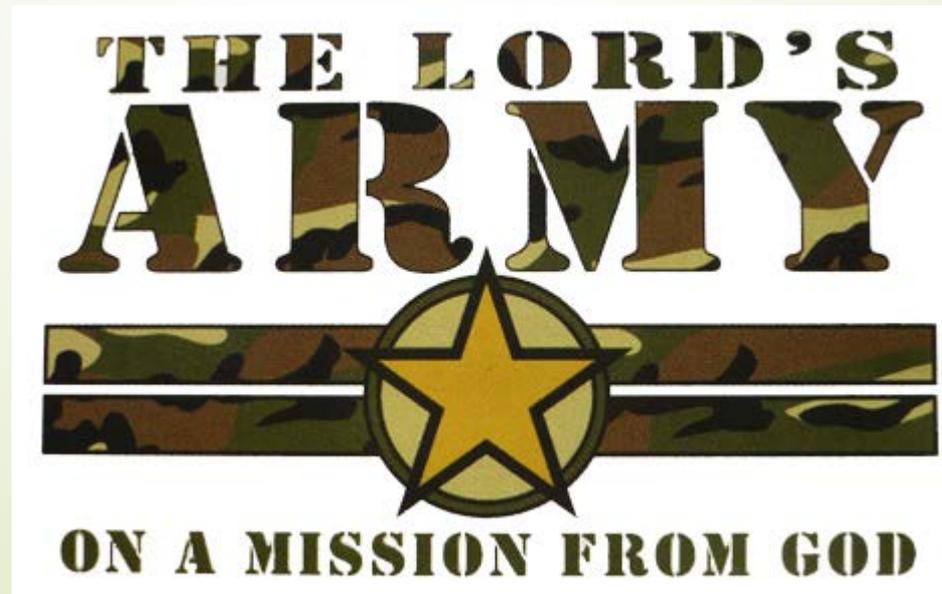




➤ Welcome Soldiers



Concealed Weapon Check



1. 1 John 4:4

"Greater is He who is in me than he who is in the world"

2. James 4:7

"Resist the devil and he will flee..."

3. Ephesians 6:10

"...be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power."

4. Joshua 1:9

...the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

5. Acts 5:29

"...we must obey God rather than men."



Concealed Weapon Check



6. Psalm 119:11

"I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you."

7. Psalm 28:7

"The Lord is my strength and my shield"

8. Ephesians 4:27

"do not give the devil a foothold."

9. Luke 9:23

"Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me."

10. 2 Timothy 3:16

"All Scripture is God-breathed..."



Eleventh Bullet



Psalm 37:7

“Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him...”



Discussion Questions

1 Timothy 4:7

How do we discipline or train ourselves to be Godly?

The disciplines of Mind and Devotion require Silence and Solitude.

- The Discipline of Silence: The voluntary and temporary abstention from speaking so that certain spiritual goals might be sought.
- The Discipline of Solitude: Voluntarily and temporarily withdrawing to privacy for spiritual purposes.



Discussion Questions

Mathew 4:1: "Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert..." **Luke 4:1:** Luke states in his account that Jesus was "full of the Holy Spirit." Then in **Luke 4:14** states that afterward He returned to Galilee "in the power of the Spirit."

- How do you listen to the Holy Spirit?

Mathew 14:22-26:

- What is the purpose of being alone with God?
- Have you ever felt a need to be alone with God?
- How long was Jesus alone with God?



Discussion Questions

Mark 1:21-38

- Can you list all the things that Jesus did during this account of his day?
- How many people came out to see Jesus? Also remember, many were seeking his healing.
- When did Jesus leave to pray?
- What can we learn from this?
- What happened after Jesus returned from prayer?



A soldier in camouflage gear is walking in a field, carrying a large cylindrical object on his back. The image is faded and serves as a background for the text.

Mother Theresa explains the Benefits of Silence & Solitude in her following quote:

“We need to find God, and he is generally harder to find in noise and restlessness. God is the friend of silence. See how nature – trees, flowers, grass – grows in silence; see the stars, the moon, the sun, how they move in silence... We need silence to be able to touch souls.”

The Benefits of Silence and Solitude

1. To hear the voice of God better:

➤ 1 Kings 19:11-13

❖ What kind of voice do you think Elijah was expecting?

❖ What kind of voice did he hear?



The Benefits of Silence and Solitude

2. To Intimately Worship God and to be in reverence of Him:
- **Habakkuk 2:20-** *"The Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth be silent before him."*
 - **Zephaniah 1:7-** *"Be silent before the Sovereign Lord, for the day of the Lord is near."*
 - **Isaiah 30:15-** *"In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength"*
 - **Psalms 37:7-** *"Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him; do not fret when people succeed in their ways, when they carry out their wicked schemes."*



The Benefits of Silence and Solitude

3. To be Physically and Spiritually Restored:

➤ **Mark 6:30-31** [The means of replenishment Jesus prescribed to his disciples after spending themselves in several days of physical and spiritual output.]

4. To Regain a Spiritual Perspective:

➤ **Luke 1:20 & Luke 1:64** Closing our mouths can open our minds!

❖ What was the first thing Zechariah did after he was able to speak?



The Benefits of Silence and Solitude

5. To Seek the Will of God:

➤ **Luke 6:12-13**

We can do this by listening for that still small voice, just as Elijah did.

❖ Do you often pray before a difficult decision?

➤ **Matthew 6:6-** *“But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.”*



Charles Stanley Quote

“The time you spend alone with God will transform your character and increase your devotion. Then your integrity and godly behavior in an unbelieving world will make others long to know your Lord.”



How to Build Intimacy with God

1. Meditation
2. Confession
3. Adoration
4. Journaling



Meditation

- Listening (**Psalms 40:6**) *“Sacrifice and offering you did not desire—but my ears you have opened.”*
- Reflecting (**Psalms 1:1-2**) *“Blessed is the one...whose delight is in the law of the LORD, and who meditates on his law day and night.”*
- Memorizing (**Joshua 1:8**) *“Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful.”*



Confession

1 John 1:9

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness."

Spontaneous and Systematic;
confess upon conviction, confess
routinely.



Adoration

➤ Reverence (**Revelation 4:11**) *“You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being.”* and (**Revelation 5:9-14**)

➤ Worship (**Psalms 150**)

➤ Submission (**Romans 11:36**) *“For from him and through him and for him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen.”*

(**Romans 12:1**) *“Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.”*



Journaling

Recording your thoughts, answered prayers, concerns, favorite scriptures, and many of the other works and ways of God in your life.



Discussion Questions

- How do you develop intimacy with God?



Weapons Check

➤ Psalm 37:7

“Be still before the Lord
and wait patiently for
him...”

Next week we will
study the power of
disciplined prayer.

➤ Closing thoughts?

