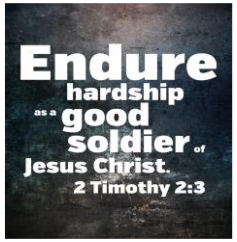
THE REAL REALITY OF A REALLY REAL FAITH

2 Timothy 2:1-13



"_____ Christian behavior is not a means to an end. It is the expression of reality – of who we really are and of who God is."

The Apostle Paul …

_____ discipleship! – V. 2

_____ us to join him in suffering – V. 3

_____ us not to get involved in civilian affairs! – V. 4

_____ the only way to receive the victors crown is by competing according to the rules! – V. 5

_____ first fruits to the hard working and faithful! – V. 6

_____ for reflection on the meaning and message of the Gospel! – V. 8

_____ to his suffering in chains like a criminal – but God's Word cannot be chained! – V. 9; **Isaiah 55:11**

_____ the benefits of enduring faith! – V. 10

2 Timothy 2:10

A genuine faith _____ people to Christ! - **Proverbs 16:7; Matthew 5:16**

Discipleship is just as _____ as salvation in the eyes of God!

Paul emphasis four critical truths every really real follower of Christ must embrace:

1. We are to be _____!

We are ministers of:

1) His _____ – V. 1

Paul was encouraging Timothy because there was a growing _____ in the church!

We fight every good fight from the platform of _____!

2) His _____ – V. 2; **2 Timothy 2:15**

2. We are to be _____! – V. 3-4

V. 10 says, **"**endure everything**" w*hich means*** "to suffer evil, to suffer trouble, to endure _____."

A good soldier knows that he may be called upon to lay down his _____ for _____! – **1 John 3:16; 1 John 2:15–16**

An ordinary citizen is a free agent, He can make his own decisions; tie up his time as he wills; and become involved in anything he likes. A _____, on the other hand, cannot entangle himself in anything that might interfere with his duty.

3. We are meant to have _____! – V. 5-7

But we must compete according to His _____!

Paul relates the Christian journey to …

1) Being an _____! – V. 5
2) Being a _____ – V. 6-7

The believer is like the farmer in that his work is _____ _____!

The believer is like the farmer in that we have to put our hands to the plow, and not _____ _____! **– Luke 9:62**

4. We are called to _____ – V. 8-13; 1 Peter 2:21

Paul understood, ***as should we,*** that suffering _____ the gospel! "You don't really know Jesus is all you _____ until Jesus is all you _____."