

“Prepared for Battle”

2 Tim. 2:1, 3

Hi, I'm Crawford Loritts with a Legacy Moment.

Some of my friends who have seen conflict in war have shared with me that when they were out in the field all their senses were heightened. For days at a time they didn't really sleep. Oh, they may have dozed off and rested a little, but it was too costly to sleep or to be distracted by things that weren't directly related to their objective. One missed cue and they could be dead.

We, too, are fighting a war, and we, too, must stay engaged.

We need to take seriously the words mentioned in 2 Timothy chapter 2 verses 1 and 3. Listen to these words; “You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. Suffer hardship with me as a good soldier of Christ Jesus.”

The reminder is given here to Timothy that, “You're engaged in a war. Be strong.” In other words, we must stay in the condition of readiness. When all of a sudden the enemy shows his face, it's too late to be getting ready. As Christians, we need to remain strong in our spiritual disciplines, strong in terms of our understanding the truth, strong in our prayer life, and prepared for the battle.

Secondly, we are reminded to accept the necessity of hardships. War is not a playground. Sometimes we have to suffer. We have to go without. When you're fighting a war, there are things you have to get rid of. I'm not saying we're unhappy warriors. No, I'm saying that there is joy in our hearts and smiles on our faces, but we understand the reality of the battlefield in which we labor and serve.

Here's what I want you to remember today. Stay engaged. Don't fall asleep. There will be plenty of time for rest and recreation along the way, but realize that our ultimate rest is in heaven.