

Perspective: Commitment
2 Timothy 2:1-7 Discussion Questions

1. Have you known anyone or can you think of an example of someone who had the perspective: "I am committed to follow Christ no matter how difficult the road."
2. We learn from this text that commitment to Christ can be difficult. What are some of the indications in this passage that commitment to Christ is difficult? How do each of the three metaphors illustrate that commitment to Christ is difficult?
3. Have you ever experienced the difficulties of being a soldier, athlete, or farmer? Explain and tell how these difficulties are similar to the difficulties of a person who is committed to following Christ.
4. What are the key differences between having genuine faith, being overly optimistic and naïve, and being pessimistic? Do you struggle with either unhealthy pessimism or optimism? Explain.
5. How would you respond to someone who says they want to follow Jesus because they think He will make their life easy, possibly including more health and wealth? What are some passages of Scripture you might use?
6. How should we understand Matthew 11:30 that says "my yoke is easy, and my burden is light" in light of this teaching that following Christ can be difficult?
7. Why is the health and wealth gospel so popular and prevalent? What are the dangers of this perspective? Why is it important to recognize that commitment to Christ can be difficult?
8. Have the difficult times in your life been times when your faith was weakened or strengthened? Explain.
9. We also discover that commitment to Christ is necessary. How would you respond to someone who said they know they are saved but commitment to Christ is not important? What are some passages of Scripture that talk about the importance of commitment to Christ?
10. How do the three images of the soldier, athlete, and farmer reveal the importance of commitment?
11. Third, we learn that commitment is rewarding. How do the images of the soldier, athlete, and farmer indicate there is a reward for those who are committed?
12. It was suggested in the sermon that our society seems to value commitment but we seem to value personal, immediate happiness more. Can you think of examples of this?
13. Can you think of examples of people who valued personal happiness more than commitment, but in the end they were not happy? Have you been more satisfied/content when you were following Christ or when you were trying to pursue immediate, personal happiness?
14. When you have gone through difficult times, what are some of the key truths you have found to be especially encouraging and motivating?
15. Why should it motivate us to remain faithful to Christ when we consider Him and what He has done?