

**GOSPEL** of *Grace*  
FELLOWSHIP

**2 Timothy 2:3-7**  
**A Disciplined Life for Eternal Reward**  
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**Three Imperatives**

2 Tim. 2:1 Be strong  
2 Tim. 2:2 Entrust  
**2 Tim. 2:3 Suffer hardship**

**Discipline like a soldier: vss. 3-4**  
**Discipline like an athlete: vs. 5**  
**Discipline like a farmer: vs. 6**

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**Discipline Like a Soldier**

**2 Timothy 2:3-4**  
**Suffer hardship with me** as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. **4 No soldier in active service entangles himself in the affairs of everyday life**, so that he may please the one who enlisted him as a soldier.

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**Discipline Like an Athlete**

**2 Timothy 2:5**  
Also if anyone competes **as an athlete**, he does not **win the prize** unless he competes according to the rules.

1. Following the rules during games
2. Following the rules during training

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**Discipline Like a Farmer**

**2 Timothy 2:6-7**  
The **hard-working farmer** ought to be the first to receive his share of the crops. **7 Consider what I say**, for the Lord will give you understanding in everything.

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**Applications**

1. Believers must know that the “fear of the Lord” brings wisdom and therefore concern about His judgment and reward.
2. We must be mindful of why we are suffering.
3. Discipline in righteous living pays off with the greatest rewards!

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## Wisdom and Reward

### Proverbs 1:7

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.

### Proverbs 2:5-6

Then you will discern the fear of the LORD and discover the knowledge of God. 6 For the LORD gives wisdom; from His mouth come knowledge and understanding.

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## Wisdom and Reward

### 2 Corinthians 5:10-11

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad. 11 Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade men, but we are made manifest to God; and I hope that we are made manifest also in your consciences.

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## Why Are We Suffering?

1. We should not suffer for immoral behavior: 1 Peter 4:15-16
2. We should not suffer in order to be more "acceptable" to God: Colossians 2:20-23
3. We should suffer for the sake of righteousness/gospel: Matthew 5:10-12

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## Discipline and Suffering Pay Off!

### 1 Timothy 4:7-8

But have nothing to do with worldly fables fit only for old women. On the other hand, discipline yourself for the purpose of godliness; 8 for bodily discipline is only of little profit, but godliness is profitable for all things, since it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come.

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