You have the uniform; you have your weapons but if you don't train God cannot use you. You must train in Bible class if you are to be used in combat.

Bible class is the training grounds and discipline of learning God's word and His plan for your life so you can be a good soldier for Him.

2 Peter 3:18: "But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory, both now and to the day of eternity."

God has decreed every circumstance, or battlefield, the believer will face in time, and He expects that person to apply doctrine to the challenges presented.

The unseen battle is far more devastating and carries much more impact historically than the visible clash of arms on history's various battlefields.

In order to arm your soul, you must establish for yourself a Biblical inventory of divine thought (human good vs divine viewpoint).

So we need to do our duty by taking in Bible Doctrine every day and become a good witness for the prosecution and good SOLDIERS for Christ.

Here's another weapon and it's something our pastor has taught us over and over...impersonal love. This is a critical weapon to have in our arsenal.

Matthew 22:37-39: "And He said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind."

Vs. 38: This is the first and foremost commandment.

Vs. 39: The second is, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

So personal love for God is the greatest commandment. You must have personal love for

God first, but the second greatest commandment is to "love your neighbor as yourself".

"Neighbor" is " $\pi\lambda\eta\sigma$ iov" – "plesion" in the Greek and it means "neighbor" or "any other person irrespective of nation or religion with whom we live or whom we come in contact with".

- 1. The object of impersonal love can be known or unknown, friend or enemy, attractive or repulsive, honorable, or dishonorable. Good or evil, believer or unbeliever. All types of people.
- 2.Impersonal love is unconditional with regards to its object. There are no conditions with impersonal love and no merit is assigned to the object of love by the subject.
- 3.Impersonal love is the greatest type of love in human relationships, and it also applies to those we love personally. Impersonal love across the board for all neighbors including those we love personally. Those we know, those we barely know, those we don't know, including those we see on television and despise.

- 4. All the merit and integrity reside in the mature believer who has developed the spiritual skill. Impersonal love is a skill. It's developed. It's from your mind and soul and it's developed. This is a skill that is developed in order to express impersonal love.
- 5.So, the motivation for impersonal love is not attractiveness; it's not rapport; it's not worthiness; it's not compatibility; it's not how someone treats you. It is motivated by the believer's own virtue and integrity of the believer emanating from the mature spiritual life.
- 6.Impersonal love is characterized by several things: tolerance; not prejudicial; courteous; objectivity even in the face of hostility and antagonism.
- 7.Remember, impersonal love was a skill demonstrated by Jesus Christ toward His antagonists constantly throughout the incarnation. He set the example for all of us.

Luke 23:34a: "But Jesus was saying, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing."

- 8. The defining characteristic of impersonal love is integrity of soul based on application of Bible Doctrine that takes precedent over the faults and flaws of people.
- 9. Regardless of the offensive personality or disagreements with the object of impersonal love or any other human weakness even a wrong done to you by that other person the second foremost commandment to love can still be fulfilled through impersonal love.
- 10. The virtue necessary for impersonal love is developed by spiritual growth. You are developing impersonal love every time you listen to Bible Doctrine.

The sailors in Seal Team 6 have the best training, weapons, and materials. But they also have a topnotch logistics team. They never worry about needing anything. They have a team making sure there every need is met.

Guess what we have the best logistics known to man. Even better than Seal Team 6 or any other organization.

We have "Living Grace"! We know "Living Grace" as "Logistical Grace".

"Logistical Grace" should give you great confidence in the times in which we live. It includes several factors of divine provision.

- 1.Life support is provided for every church Age believer. This explains how and why we are alive every moment. The only reason we are alive is because of "logistical grace". We do not earn or deserve it; there's no work we can accomplish to keep ourselves alive.
- 2.Blessing is provided for every Church Age believer, both winners and losers. This dramatizes the justice of God, in that justice of God, He sends life support and blessing to the indwelling righteousness of God in both winners and losers. This emphasizes grace. You are alive only because of the grace of God, not because of anything you do.

PRINCIPLE: Winners utilize logistical grace, losers coast on it. But never utilize it.

- 3. Divine provision for every Church Age believer to execute the protocol plan of God and all doctrine comes from the prepared pastor-teacher. If you have persistent positive volition, you will find doctrine and your right pastor-teacher.
- 4. You don't have to sweat your logistical support. You don't have to sweat your "beans and your bullets" or your daily existence. Your Father promised that He would meet those needs. As a believer that is advancing spiritually, God will never abandon you.
- 5. The divine promise of "logistical grace" is found in 2 Corinthians 9:8: "And God is able to make all grace overflow to you, so that, always having all sufficiency in everything (logistical grace support), you may have an abundance for every good deed."

Luke 12:22-31: "And He said to His disciples, "For this reason I tell you, do not

worry about your life, as to what you are to eat; nor for your body, as to what you are to wear.

Vs. 23: For life is more than food, and the body is more than clothing.

Vs. 24: Consider the ravens, that they neither sow nor reap; they have no storeroom nor barn, and yet God feeds them; how much more valuable you are than the birds!

Vs. 25: And which of you by worrying can add a day to his life's span?

Vs. 26: Therefore if you cannot do even a very little thing, why do you worry about the other things?

Vs. 27: Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither labor nor spin; but I tell you, not even Solomon in all his glory clothed himself like one of these.

Vs. 28: Now if God so clothes the grass in the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the furnace, how much more will He clothe you? You of little faith!

Vs. 29: And do not seek what you are to eat and what you are to drink, and do not keep worrying.

Vs. 30: For all these things are what the nations of the world eagerly seek; and your Father knows that you need these things.

Vs. 31: But seek His kingdom, and these things will be provided to you."

In these passages, our Lord is teaching the disciples the principle of "Logistical Grace". In other words, God will supply your every need.

Luke 12:22 starts out with a command – "Do not worry". This is a direct prohibition against worry or having anxiety about your life or material needs.

Under the concept of "Logistical Grace", the mature believer understands what our Lord is teaching the disciples. That the Heavenly Father will see to our every need. This is logistics that are arranged in heaven and provided for all who have their priorities in order.

Paul confirms this in <u>Philippians 4:19</u>: "But my God shall supply all your needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus."

1 Peter 5:7: "Cast all your cares upon the Lord for He cares for you."

Philippians 4:6: "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God."

Paul lived this concept daily when he said, "Not that I speak from need, for I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am.

Vs. 12: I know how to get along with little, and I also know how-to live-in prosperity; in any and every circumstance I have learned the secret of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need." Philippians 4:11-12

God's grace counters your failures and weaknesses. You know it, so you gain humility.

You know your weaknesses; you know your sin nature and God counters that with His grace in so many ways.

He's provided rebound for you, spiritual growth, you gain humility, and you apply that same gracious attitude to others. It's not about them no matter what. It's about you.

You must reflect God's grace through your life.

With God's Grace provisions and your +V nothing will distract you from reaching his desired will and purpose for you.

Then when our time in the conflict is over God provides for us "Dying Grace". How will you die on the battlefield.

1. "Dying Grace" is defined as the death of the mature believer. It is the experience of physical death under special provision of grace, whereby the believer involved experiences both blessing and happiness while dying.

- 2. Since "dying grace" is the extension of living grace, it will glorify God.
- 3. <u>Job 5:19-24</u> teaches that the mature believer has no fear of death. He has no fear of anything dangerous.
- 4. "Dying grace" can occur regardless of the amount of pain and suffering while dying. There could be maximum pain or a minimum of pain, but in either case there is maximum happiness in the soul.
- 5. "Dying grace" removes the fear of death.

 Psalm 23:4. According to 1 Corinthians 15:55,

 "dying grace" takes the sting out of death.
- 6. "Dying grace" is the great blessing, which comes at the termination of one's life. It is still a part of living. Physical death plus the Word of God in your soul equals the greatest blessing of life.
- 7.No believer dies until the Lord says it's time to come home. Once God calls a believer home, nothing can keep him here.

In <u>2 Timothy 4:7-8</u>, Paul was dying. Since he held onto maturity until death, he knew he would be rewarded in eternity.

The relationship of blessing in time with blessing in eternity is found in "dying grace", Hebrews 11:13. "Dying grace" brings all eternal rewards into clear focus.

"Dying grace" is the link between temporal and eternal grace (or escrow) blessings, Romans 5:20; Hebrews 11:13. It is the bridge, which takes the believer from grace to grace. What do believers have to look forward to after death?

- 1. After a believer dies, we have no appointment with judgment, Romans 8:1 and Hebrews 9:27-28.
- 2.We are "face to face with the Lord," 2 Corinthians 5:8.

Revelation 21:4 teaches there is no pain, sorrow, or embarrassment beyond the grave. No human language can describe the fantastic blessings in

heaven. Heaven is more than what we enjoy in life.

We have an eternal inheritance, 1 Peter 1:4-5. We share Christ's inheritance no matter how we fail in time.

We have a new home, John 14:1-3. We all will have a perfect home in eternity.

We will receive a resurrection body, John 11:25; Philippians 3:21; 1 John 3:1-2; Job 19:25-26.

We can't get to heaven in these bodies. These bodies won't work in heaven. We have to get a different body, a resurrection body. Therefore, this body has to die, the corruption has to get out. We've to get out of this corrupted body before we can get into the body of incorruption.

God is the expert, and He decides when the perfect time is for each of us to depart from the earth. God's time is the best time.

Then there's "surpassing grace" which is in heaven where "the eye has never seen; the ear has never heard the phenomenal things God has for us."

In heaven there are colors you've never seen, there are sounds you've never heard, there are things in heaven you cannot even imagine in your wildest dreams. So, whenever you're in doubt. Always follow grace.

Revelation 2:10: "Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, so that you will be tested, and you will have tribulation for ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life."

Matthew 25:23: "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!"

- 2 Thessalonians 3:3: "But the Lord is faithful, and he will strengthen you and protect you from the evil one."
- 2 Corinthians 10:13: "No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it."

Isaiah 40:31: "But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint."

Joshua 1:9: "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous! Do not tremble or be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

So when your combat tour is nearly over, have you been faithful to what you learned? Will you complete the mission? Will you finish strong?

Psalm 90:12: "So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom." If you are going to finish your race you must do this.

Hebrews 12:1: "Therefore, since we also have such a great cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let's rid ourselves of every obstacle and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let's run with endurance the race that is set before us,"

And you must stay away from this.

Galatians 5:7: "You were running well; who hindered you from obeying the truth?"

What is your hindrance? What is your distraction? Don't leave your first love!

Revelation 2:4: "But I have this against you, that you have left your first love."

Only personal love for the Father gives you the motivation to live one day at a time and all for His glory. Losing that Occupation with Christ is akin to losing your first love.

Paul speaks of those who turn away from the truth as deserters of the gospel in **Galatians 1:6**:

"I am amazed that you are so soon removed from Him (God the Father) Who called you into the grace of Christ unto another of a different kind of gospel which is not another of the same kind of gospel except there will be some legalist that trouble you and would pervert the gospel of Christ." (EXT)

Lay aside all distractions and set priorities, get victory over sinful habits, that cause you to stumble in the conflict. Endure the pain, embrace the sacrifice, reap the reward.

In spite of the injustice or chaos we see in our lives or our nation we cannot afford to be sidetracked by outside circumstances or those who drive them.

Your thoughts can be highjacked or redirected through the never-ending call to worry and be afraid of pandemics, grocery shortages, social tensions, political intrigue, children, etc.

Paul's emphasis was to stay on point and complete the mission and you must do the same.

Don't let what's going on around you become a stumbling block or a snare that gets you sidetracked.

This is our challenge because we have no authority to overthrow duly appoint governments.

We learn from history what happens when governments are overthrown. Just look at the oppression of the czars of Russia when they were replaced by the murdering oppressive communists.

Tear down one government what do you get? Worse! Don't wish for this use the doctrine in your soul and pray for our leaders and our nation. PRINCIPLE: Revolution may remove who Is bad, but it replaces it with what is worse.

Revolution is not where you want to go. When leaders abuse their authority, it contradicts divine intent of government under the 4th Divine Institution.

- 1. The justice and the sovereignty of God towards the human race is the source of government authority.
- 2. Anti-authority thinking is anti-God.
- 3. What God has ordained, the believer must not contradict or oppose.
- 4. Divinely ordained government provides a nation with stability and protection.
- 5.God's justice will prevail even though government may abuse power. Remember this principle: God's justice never fails!

- 6.All rulers at all levels of power are responsible to God and His justice will handle it!
- 7.God does not ever sponsor for us to tear down His divine institutions.

Never forget this God will not be mocked by immoral and perverse human authority and evil government rulers.

It's because human authority is ordained by God and rulers are ordained by God but when those rulers abuse that authority, they are evil, and they mock the divine institutions.

Galatians 6:7: "Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a person sows, this he will also reap."

PRINCIPLE: The Christian solider carries out the will of God for his life no matter what. That's the priority. The state may kill you, but your priority is to fulfill the plan of God for your life.

We can never forget this is not our home.

Hebrews 13:14: "For this world is not our permanent home; we are looking forward to a home yet to come."

We serve a risen Savior, and He has overcome the world.

John 16:33: "These things I have spoken to you so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation but take courage; I have overcome the world."

Now I'm telling you when government is abusive God will tear it down. You don't have to worry about it. God's justice is in operation.

Now if we must accept the leadership in our country, our state, even if they're idiots. We can't overthrow them, we shouldn't be out protesting, so is our only option standing by and watching our country be destroyed?

Well, there is something we can do our duty. Train! Train for war – spiritual warfare!

As I've reminded you our weapons are not M-4's or F-35's or Javelin Missiles but with the Word of God! We get our "Operation Orders" from it.

Our Pastor teaches us how to be good soldiers for Christ from it. It's our Standard Operating Procedures our SOP.

PRINCIPLE: The greater the impact, the more time needed in preparation.

God honors those that honor Him, and honor means that God has blessings beyond your wildest dreams. If you'll put doctrine first and be faithful to the Word of God, the life that God has for you is unbelievable. You cannot imagine it; you couldn't dream in a million years what God has for you and He's waiting for you to be faithful.

Not only are there escrow blessings in time, but also escrow blessings in eternity, blessings that are held in reserve for you. Reaching spiritual maturity is a process, it doesn't happen overnight.

You have to grow in the grace and the knowledge of your Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

This may take time, but I can assure you that if you're faithful, if you're consistent, if you stick with it, God will give you something you never imagined in a million years.

Seal Team 6 has award ceremonies. I've been there for one. The Lord will have His own award ceremony for us. The believer who finishes his mission will receive a crown:

James 1:12: "Happy is the advanced believer who continues to endure testing for the purpose of approval, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised in eternity past for those who have personal love for Him. (EXT)

2 Timothy 4:7: "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith."

vs.8: Now there is in store for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing. (NIV)

These crowns constitute the prize won for the believer who reaches spiritual maturity. These crowns are a part of the believer's escrow blessings in time and eternity.

Then in Revelation, chapters 2 and 3, John evaluates the rewards for the believer who advances to spiritual maturity "To the Winner" and "The one winning." The "Nike awards".

The winner believer is God's trophy of grace and as such is recognized once Christ returns for His church.

This is your prize to collect as a reward for your fidelity and maximum glorification of God.

PRINCIPLE: Two things break the back of Satan. The strategic victory of our Lord on the Cross. The tactical victory of those who advance to spiritual maturity.

But I know the hardest thing in the world is to be consistent in Bible class. I know, and it amazes me how consistent some of you are and it's encouraging to your pastor and to those around you.

You have to learn that this is priority number one in your life and there is going to come a time when you're going to need everything that's ever been taught by our pastor.

Remember this spiritual combat is no place for children or babies. God needs trained (advancing

mature believers) believers in His army. <u>Hebrews</u> 5:12-14.

You (this church) are the SEALS of the Christian Life. You are the Tip of the Spear!

If you ever hope to glorify God in your life, it's not because of what you do, or what you give up, or how moral you are, or even how great people claim you are, it's because you have maximum amount of God's Word in your soul and that reflects the life of Christ.

PRINCIPLE: The Christian carries out the will of God for his life no matter what. That's the priority. The state may kill you, but your priority is to fulfill the plan of God for your life.

So, will you become a Christian casualty, or will you stand firm, and hold your ground? Will you be a good solider for Christ? How will you complete your mission? Will you finish strong?

Are you teaching your children, your family, when you're called home will they continue to fight the good fight of the faith, or will they become a Christian causality? This is the challenge if America is going to survive.

Principal: Without preparation there is no execution.

Be on the alert!!

1 Peter 5:8: "Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion seeking whom he can devour."

Remember we are soldiers for Christ who is our Commander in Chief. We are to fight the battle without distractions in order to serve Him and without Bible doctrine in your soul, you will be completely powerless against the strategy of Satan.

You won't have any divine viewpoint. You won't be thinking the mind of Christ. Without doctrine in your soul the Holy Spirit doesn't have any ammunition to use, you're helpless.

The Holy Spirit is the engine, but Bible doctrine is the fuel that He uses to power that engine.

Bible doctrine, the teaching of the Word of God, not the doctrines of the church you find on the wall, fuels these concepts.

These principles that you learn and apply to your life, that's what the Holy Spirit uses. That is why repetition and recall are critical. You will hear something repeated, and your mind will say,

"Yes. I remember that. Yes, I heard that before." I reinforce what you've heard, to reinforce it and cause you to recall it and challenge you with it.

In order for you and this church to remain the "Tip of the Spear" you must not quit. You must continue your advance enlarging the Bible Doctrine in your soul and then you must have the courage to apply it in your life.

You can witness with your life more than you ever can with your mouth.

And never forget God uses prepared people. If SEALS in Seal Team Six are not prepared, they can't be used and the same is true for us. If you are not prepared God can't use, you. You're on the team. You have a uniform but you're on the bench. So get prepared.

John 14:27: "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." (KJV)

This "peace" the Lord Jesus Christ offers is internal not external.

This "Peace" is internal in that it leaves you free of worry, bitterness, anxiety, or other mental attitude sins.

It is my prayer that this class has been encouraging, and that we will raise the flag high until we plant it where the "colors never flew" on the high ground of spiritual maturity "Mount Pleroma".