

SIX ESSENTIALS FOR THE WARRIOR

Today most armed services have a six to thirteen week period of what they term basic training. During that time the recruits have a leader called a drill instructor. After this basic training, the young soldier or sailor begins to look and act differently.

As you continue to grow in The Word of GOD, you should be praying that you will become more fit, and that you will be in shape for intense spiritual warfare. A timid untrained army is no match for hell's terrorists! No, we must get into spiritual shape, pick up our armor, and go to the battlefield. David trained his four hundred soldiers with the truth we find in Psalm 18, which contains six basic charges every warrior needs to hear.

Get Under Authority-Submission-(Ps 18:27)

(Submission: an act of submitting to the authority or control of another)

The soldier must begin the day knowing how to obey orders. From the moment of arrival in boot camp, nothing belongs to the recruit anymore! His hair is cut, his clothing is selected for him, and his schedule is determined by his leaders. For a season, freedom is lost and submission is taught.

It is essential to understand that putting the devil to flight requires submission to GOD. James 4:7 tells us, "Therefore submit yourselves to GOD. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you." Hebrews 12:1-2 gives the Christian his or her marching orders: "Therefore, since we are encompassed with such a great cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us.

Let us look, to Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of GOD.”

Get On Fire For The Cause-Passion (Ps 18:28)

The second goal of boot camp is to inspire the recruit to have a passion for the cause of the nation. All things being equal, the one with the most passion for the fight will win. In our struggle against the enemy, we must be on fire to win the souls of men for GOD’s kingdom.

Be Prepared for Warfare-Discipline (Ps 18:28)

GOD will enlighten His soldiers. We have been given the right armor and the right instructions. Every church must become a spiritual armory, preparing its people for the struggle against the darkness.

Believe You Can Win-Vision (Ps 18:29)

Here the recruit confesses his faith. By the power of GOD he can overcome a troop. With the strength of GOD he can leap over a wall. The enemy’s army and obstacles fall before the spiritual soldier who has faith.

Know Your Weapons-Power (Ps 18:30-32, 34)

Notice first that GOD has a perfect battle plan. The word perfect means “absolutely complete.” We must fight according to His plan. Secondly, Yahweh has given us a sharp, two-edged sword-His Word. We must wield [*to hold & use a weapon or tool*] this sword effectively if we are to live the victor’s life.

Furthermore, GOD grants us a shield of protection: faith. Also, Yahweh exercises our gifts so our hands will be strengthened to make war. We can use our “bow of bronze” to judge the enemy. Spiritual archers can shoot down the principalities in the heavens!

Go To The Next Level-Excellence (Ps 18:33)

Boot camp moves us to the next level of battle. We can conquer the mountains before us. Our feet must be strong so we can walk with a sure foot. The feet of deer track, which means the rear foot will always land where the front foot leaves. Our GOD allows us to walk in His footsteps, tracking hard after Him.

David’s manual, here in Ps 18, molded the four hundred outcasts into a military machine that would take the kingdom. We too can go to the next level if we become informed and disciplined. Learn to know your enemy, understand the battle, equip yourself for the fight, and walk in victory.”