Introduction
Discipleship is like a relay race.
What is the critical event in every relay race?
What we are handing off is not a baton, it’s the Gospel, the Word of God.
“And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others.” II Timothy 2:2

I. A disciple is like a soldier.
II Timothy 2:3-4

A good soldier:
- Endures hardship.
- Refuses to get entangled in the affairs of life.
- Seeks to please his commander (the one who enlisted him).
- Stays at his post.

Paul – Timothy – Faithful Men – Others
We are called to make disciples.
Think about being a good soldier.

• What have I given up for Christ?
• What am I doing to disciple others?
• Is my commander pleased with me?

An athlete:

• Trains hard (makes sacrifices).
• Plays according to the rules or they are disqualified.
• Plays to win (to reach their goal).

24 Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. 25 Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. 26 Therefore I do not run like someone running aimlessly; I do not fight like a boxer beating the air. 27 No, I strike a blow to my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize." 1 Corinthians 9:24-27

A disciple is like an athlete and every athlete needs a coach who can help them to reach their potential.

A good coach teaches, demonstrates, encourages and corrects.

That's discipleship!

Mom and Dad –

• Do you read the Bible to your children?
• Do you talk about how it applies to life?
• Do you pray with your children?
• Do you serve together?
• Do they see you share your faith?
A farmer:
- Works hard.
- Is the first to share in the harvest.
- Depends upon the Lord to produce the fruit.

The same is true in ministry. We teach, encourage, train and equip, but it is God who causes the growth.

Just like a farmer:
- Are we giving Jesus our best effort?
- Do we rely upon God to produce the fruit?
- What will our harvest be?

Conclusion

The most compelling question every Christian must ask is this: “What am I doing today that will guarantee my impact for Jesus in the next generation?” Howard Hendricks

Who is your Timothy?
Pick up your baton and get in the race.