

# MAXIMISE YOUR POTENTIAL – Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2017

## 5: THE POTENTIAL OF WHOLE HEARTED SERVICE

### 2 Timothy 1.15-2.7

As we continue to consider maximising our potential – why is it that we are prone to get into a rut that is familiar and comfortable pattern of doing things? In the section of today's study there are three images that are presented by Paul – that of a soldier, an athlete and a farmer. They all speak of focused energy that refuses to stay in the rut of predictability but presses on into the challenges that are always before us.

Before we look at these images let's backtrack to the closing section of **2 Timothy 1**.

#### **1. THERE WERE THOSE WHO FAILED TO REACH THEIR GOD GIVEN POTENTIAL.**

##### **THERE WAS DEFECTION v.15**

There were those who had deserted Paul and two names are mentioned Phygelus and Hermogenes v.15.

There are others, Titus and Crescens (4.10); Demas (4.11); Alexander (4.14). How do you think Paul felt as he reflected on these names and the back story of why they had defected from Paul and perhaps even the Lord?

#### **2. THERE WERE THOSE WHO WERE FAITHFULLY REACHING THEIR GOD GIVEN POTENTIAL**

##### **THERE WAS DEVOTION v.16-17**

This is where we are introduced to Onesiphorus.

What are some of the characteristics of Onesiphorus?

How can we be involved in 'refreshing' others? What can such an action look like?

#### **3. PURSUE REACHING YOUR POTENTIAL THROUGH EFFECTIVE MINISTRY**

This encouragement comes through 2 Timothy 2.2 *And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others.*

We are back to the important principle of discipleship – what we have received we pass on to others.

How do we implement this kind of discipleship?

It is important to pray for one another and the role we all have with what has been entrusted to us.

In your group – take a few moments to write down underneath each image some of the qualities that would naturally stand out. In what way do they present a challenge to the way we live and serve our Lord and Master?

### **A COMMITTED SOLDIER v.3-4**

Characteristics of a soldier:

- Sacrifice
- Obedience
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### **A COMPETITIVE ATHLETE v.5**

Characteristics of an athlete:

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### **A CONSCIENTIOUS FARMER v.6**

Characteristics of a farmer:

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2 Timothy 2.7 *Reflect on what I am saying, for the Lord will give you insight into all this.*

**FOR YOUR OWN NOTES:**