



## **“SEMPER FI LEADERSHIP!”**

### **2 TIMOTHY CHAPTER 2:1-14**

~ **Observe FIVE KEYS to “SEMPER FI - ALWAYS FAITHFUL!” IN LEADERSHIP:**

> **KEY #1 – SEMPER FI IN MINISTRY! (v1-2)**

> **KEY #2 – SEMPER FI AS A CHRISTIAN SOLDIER! (v3-4)**

> **KEY #3 – SEMPER FI AS AN ATHLETE FOR CHRIST! (v5)**

> **KEY #4 – SEMPER FI AS A FARMER IN THE HARVEST! (v6-7)**

> **KEY #5 – SEMPER FI IN THE GOSPEL MESSAGE! (v8-14)**

> **KEY #1 – SEMPER FI IN MINISTRY! (v1-2)**

- **Faithful leaders are STRONG in the GRACE that is in CHRIST JESUS!**

- **Faithful leaders COMMIT THE MINISTRY TO FAITHFUL LEADERS!** – We are told in Acts 6:1-4 - *Now in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplying, there arose a complaint against the Hebrews by the Hellenists, because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. <sup>2</sup> Then the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said, “It is not desirable that we should leave the word of God and serve tables. <sup>3</sup> Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business; <sup>4</sup> but we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word.”*

- **Notice that FAITHFUL MEN are:**

*1<sup>st</sup> – Of GOOD REPUTATION!*

*2<sup>nd</sup> – Full of the HOLY SPIRIT!*

*3<sup>rd</sup> – Full of WISDOM!*

*4<sup>th</sup> – Full of FAITH!*

*5<sup>th</sup> – Men who are able to TEACH!*

> **KEY #2 – SEMPER FI AS A CHRISTIAN SOLDIER! (v3-4)**

- **Be prepared for battle, put on the whole armor of God!** - Ephesians 6:10-20 -

*Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. <sup>11</sup> Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. <sup>12</sup> For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. <sup>13</sup> Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. <sup>14</sup> Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, <sup>15</sup> and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; <sup>16</sup> above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. <sup>17</sup> And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; <sup>18</sup> praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints— <sup>19</sup> and for me, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel, <sup>20</sup> for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.*

**- TAKE UP ARMOR OF GOD EVERY DAY! How?**

**#1 – *GIRD YOURSELF WITH THE BELT OF TRUTH!***

**#2 – *PUT ON THE BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS!***

**#3 – *SHOD YOUR FEET WITH PREPARATION OF THE GOSPEL OF PEACE!***

**#4 – *TAKING THE SHIELD OF FAITH AND QUENCH THE FIERY DARTS!***

**#5 – *WEAR THE HELMET OF SALVATION!***

**#6 – *USE THE SWORD OF SPIRIT, WHICH IS THE WORD OF GOD!***

**#7 – *HAVE ENDURANCE AND STAMINA THROUGH PRAYER IN THE SPIRIT!***

**#8 - *BE WATCHFUL, BE ON GUARD WITH PERSEVERANCE AND SUPPLICATION FOR ALL SAINTS! (ALL FOR ONE, ONE FOR ALL!)***

**#9 – *SPEAK BOLDLY THE GOSPEL!***

**~General Douglas MacArthur's "Duty, Honor, Country" speech, delivered on May 12, 1962, at West Point, emphasizes the moral code and values essential for military leadership and service. (Abbreviated version)**

**- "Duty, Honor, Country"— those three hallowed words reverently dictate what you want to be, what you can be, what you will be. They are your rallying point to build courage when courage seems to fail, to regain faith when there seems to be little cause for faith, to create hope when hope becomes forlorn. Unhappily, I possess neither that eloquence of diction, that poetry of imagination, nor that brilliance of metaphor to tell you all that they mean.**

**The unbelievers will say they are but words, but a slogan, but a flamboyant phrase. Every pedant, every demagogue, every cynic, every hypocrite, every troublemaker, and, I am sorry to say, some others of an entirely different character, will try to downgrade them even to the extent of mockery and ridicule.**

**But these are some of the things they do. They build your basic character. They mold you for your future roles as the custodians of the nation's defense. They make you strong enough to know when you are weak, and brave enough to face yourself when you are afraid.**

**They teach you to be proud and unbending in honest failure, but humble and gentle in success; not to substitute words for action; not to seek the path of comfort, but to face the stress and spur of difficulty and challenge; to learn to stand up in the storm, but to have compassion on those who fall; to master yourself before you seek to master others; to have a heart that is clean, a goal that is high; to learn to laugh, yet never forget how to weep; to reach into the future, yet never neglect the past; to be serious, yet never take yourself too seriously; to be modest so that you will remember the simplicity of true greatness; the open mind of true wisdom, the meekness of true strength.**

**They give you a temperate will, a quality of imagination, a vigor of the emotions, a freshness of the deep springs of life, a temperamental predominance of courage over timidity, an appetite for adventure over love of ease. They create in your heart the sense of wonder, the unfailing hope of what next, and the joy and inspiration of life. They teach you in this way to be an officer and a gentleman.**

> **KEY #3 – SEMPER FI AS AN ATHLETE FOR CHRIST! (v5)**

- Someone once said, “There are moments in every athlete's career when they have doubts and the future seems like a never ending uphill battle. In these moments, they must find the strength to push forward, to work harder, to be better. Some athletes are lucky to have coaches and mentors who have the ability to put things into perspective and motivate the athlete. For others, the motivation must be generated on their own.”

- **Our Christian life is compared to athlete running a race, we must:**

#1 – **RUN TO WIN!** - 1 Corinthians 9:24-27 - *Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it. <sup>25</sup> And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown. <sup>26</sup> Therefore I run thus: not with uncertainty. Thus I fight: not as one who beats the air. <sup>27</sup> But I discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified.*

#2 – **RUN CAREFULLY!** - Galatians 5:7 - *You ran well. Who hindered you from obeying the truth?*

#3 – **FOCUS ON THE FINISH LINE!** - Philippians 4:13 - *I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.*

#4 – **RUN FAST AND FREE!** - Hebrews 12:1-2 - *Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup> looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.*

#5 – **FINISH THE RACE!** - 2 Timothy 4:7 - *I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.*

#6 – **WIN THE PRIZE!** – 2 Timothy 4:8 - *Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.*

> **KEY #4 – SEMPER FI AS A FARMER IN THE HARVEST! (v6-7)**

- Let us reap the HARVEST! – Matthew 13:1-30 (Hear and understand the WORD, then produce FRUIT – 100 – 60 – 30-fold.

- **The fruit of the SPIRIT!** - Galatians 5:22-23 - *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness, self-control.*

- Also Ephesians 5:8-10 - <sup>8</sup> *For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light <sup>9</sup> (for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth), <sup>10</sup> finding out what is acceptable to the Lord*

- The fruit of SOUL-WINNING! - Matthew 9:36-38 - *But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd. <sup>37</sup> Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. <sup>38</sup> Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest."*

> KEY #5 – SEMPER FI IN THE GOSPEL MESSAGE! (v8-14)

- (v7-8) Our message is JESUS CHRIST of the SEED OF DAVID, RAISED FROM THE DEAD!

- (v9) PREACH and TEACH the WORD OF GOD it is not chained!

- (v10) SALVATION is in JESUS CHRIST ONLY with ETERNAL GLORY!

- (v11-14) This is a FAITHFUL SAYING!

The time is now,  
the place is here,  
souls are at stake,  
the battle is tough,  
the race is to be won,  
the fields are white for harvest;  
let us proclaim the message,  
for the rewards are GREAT!

**SEMPER FI!**  
**ALWAYS FAITHFUL!**

Let's  
**GO4GOD!**