Nov 1, 2026

Grace Group Discussion Guide

“A Soldier’s Devotion”
2 Timothy 2:3, 4
Scott Ardavanis

Big Idea: The Christian soldier finds his joy and strength in pleasing the Lord Jesus Christ.

Questions

Undivided Purpose

1. What does it look like in practical terms to suffer alongside other Christians?
2. How can we better encourage and support one another through the hardships of the Christian life?
3. Who are some people you see “overserving” in our church, and how can you come alongside them in service to the Lord?

Unwavering Pursuit

4. What are some competing priorities or distractions that undermine your devotion/focus?
5. What practical steps can you take to make God's Word your primary focus this week?
6. What keeps us out of the gathering of the church on the Lord’s Day?
7. Is it easier for you to skip work? School? Sports? Church?
8. What can we do to fan the flame of our love for corporate worship?

Unrelenting Passion

9. Read Colossians 1:10. What does it look like to sharpen our aim to please the Lord?

Memory Verse: 2 Corinthians 5:9

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Outreach Prayer Requests – Prison Ministry

Our church sends men into Pleasant Valley State Prison three times a week to lead Bible studies. There are also men and women who go into the Tulare County Jail to do ministry one-on-one which may include evangelism, prayer, or sharing scripture with inmates at their cell doors. Here are some ways you can be praying for these ministries:

1. Pray for the clearance process for new GCV volunteers in the Tulare County system. The process has become longer and more intensive. Pray that our volunteers would complete security screenings as quickly as possible.

2. Pray for the effectiveness of the volunteers, that the Lord would give them the exact words and scripture as needed to evangelize and disciple the incarcerated men and women.

3. On October 18 the GCV team held worship service at Pleasant Valley yards 4 and 5. There were many new faces at those services. Praise the Lord for the teaching of his word. Pray for eyes to be opened, conviction of sin, and hearts softened to the gospel.

4. Praise the Lord that each Tuesday night for the last several months we've held Bible studies in both the men's and women's jails. We are currently studying through Romans. Pray for the Word of God to convict, strengthen, or encourage where needed. Pray for these men and women to grow in their faith and/or hearts to be softened to the gospel.

5. Praise the Lord that Jacob Stanziole, member of GCV, was hired as the chaplain in the Tulare County Jails. Pray for him to have fruitful conversations and for the men and women he talks with to have hearts softened to the good news.

6. Pray for the mid-week services on Wednesday evenings led by Scott Bucher and Jeremy Thomas. Pray for the seminary students who have the opportunity to join them and preach in the coming month.