## THE PRACTICE

## 2 TIMOTHY 2:1-14

- <sup>1</sup> You therefore, my son, be strengthened in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.
- <sup>2</sup> And what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, these things entrust to faithful people who will be competent to teach others also.
- <sup>3</sup> Co-suffer affliction [with us], as a good soldier of Christ Jesus.
- <sup>4</sup> No one soldiering gets entangled in the things of [daily] life, so that that he may please the soldier-recruiter.
- <sup>5</sup> Also, if anyone competes as an athlete, he is not crowned [victor] unless he competes as an athlete by the rules.
- <sup>6</sup> The hard-working farmer ought to be the first to receive his share of the crops.
- <sup>7</sup> Consider what I am saying; for the Lord will give you understanding in everything.
- 8 Remember Jesus Christ, who has been raised from the dead, of the seed of David, according to my gospel,
- <sup>9</sup> for which I suffer affliction, even bonds as an evil-worker; but the word of God is not bound;
- 10 for this reason I endure all things for the sake of those the elect, so that that they also may find the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.
- <sup>11a</sup> This statement is trustworthy:
- 11b [Line 1] For if we co-died [with Him], [then] we will also co-live
- 12a [Line 2] if we endure, [then] we will also co-reign [with Him];
- 12b [Line 3] if we will deny [Him], [then] He also will deny us;
- 13 [Line 4] if we are faithless, [yet] He remains faithful, for He is not able to deny Himself.
- <sup>14</sup> Remind [people] of these things.

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**RENEWAL QUESTIONS:** The race-running to "Complete the Course" is, as we have already seen one of inevitable suffering, as we broken people live in a broken world. But God's grace is sufficient—and so are his promises of heavenly reward-enabling us to focus on the earthly race with attention (and with a corresponding absence of attention to things not concerning the race). What areas of your life could use some tweaks to please the one who called you into the race? Which of the three metaphors Paul uses—soldier, athlete, farmer—resonates with you?

Today's message: Abe Kuruvilla July 14, 2024

**OUR VISION:** By 2026, we will be having thousands of surprisingly easy-to-start conversations about Jesus all over our city because we are convinced, where God has us is where Jesus is. SHARE YOUR STORIES OF CONVERSATIONS ABOUT JESUS WITH US IN OUR CONVERSATIONS HUB AT NORTHWESTBIBLE.ORG/CONVERSATIONS.

