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Romans 11:33

# INCREASING IN THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD

Ashland Church of Christ 2008



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## Defense — Becoming Grounded and Settled **‘Be Diligent to Present Yourself Approved to God’**

Text: 2Timothy 2:15

**Key Text:** 2Timothy 2:15, “Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”

### Introduction:

- 1) How do we fight a war?
  - A) We prepare defensively and...
  - B) We prepare offensively.
  - C) The same is true in our spiritual warfare (see 1Timothy 1:18-19 and Ephesians 6:10-20).
- 2) Context:
  - a) Timothy’s faith (1:1-18).
    - i) The beginning of faith (1:3-7).
    - ii) The reinforcement of faith (1:8-12).
    - iii) The charge of faith (1:13-18).
  - b) Timothy charge (2:1-22).
    - i) Be strong in the grace that was given to you (2:1-13).
      - (1) Be strong in what you have learned (2:1-2).
      - (2) Be ready for the hardship (2:3).
      - (3) Examples of keeping our focus (2:4-6).
        - (a) The soldier (2:4).

- (b) The athlete (2:5).
- (c) The farmer (2:6).
- (4) Remember you focus (2:7-13).
  - (a) Consider Paul's words (2:7).
  - (b) Remember Jesus was raised from the dead (2:8-9).
  - (c) Endure to the end (2:10-13).
- ii) Live approved, not disapproved (2:14-26).
  - (1) Approved:
    - (a) Remind others of these things (2:14).
    - (b) Live these things (2:15).
  - (2) Disapproved:
    - (a) Not idle and profane babblings (2:16).
    - (b) The results of idle and profane babblings (2:17-18).
  - (3) More on the approved (2:19-26):
    - (a) Not iniquity (2:19).
    - (b) But repentance (2:20-21).
    - (c) Not lusts or ignorant disputes (2:22).
    - (d) But gentleness in teaching and correcting. (2:23-26).

## **I. Be diligent.**

- A. James 1:22.
- B. 1Peter 1:10.

## **II. Work.**

- A. Nehemiah 4:6.
- B. Matthew 7:21 and 12:50.

## **III. Handle correctly.**

- A. Acts 17:11.
- B. Psalm 119.