

## Small Group/Sermon Notes based on The War: Part 3

Remember, small groups are primarily for growing closer relationships with other believers. We can learn wonderful things in this environment but keep relationships first.

- Make sure everyone knows each other's names. Have everyone share a little about themselves and how life is going right now.
- **The War: Part 3 “The Draft” of “The Kingdom of God: Citizens and Soldiers”**
- In this war between the Kingdom of God and the kingdom of darkness there is a draft.
  - I've always been confused by the disconnect between verses like **Luke 9:23-24, Luke 14:27, Luke 14:33** and the common idea that “we're just volunteers.”
    - In your service to Christ have you felt like a volunteer?
- Think of it this way: The Kingdom of God is populated by Citizens AND Soldiers.
  - Everyone is called to full time Christianity (which involves ministering from time to time), but not everyone is called to full time ministry.
    - What do you think of the above statement? Do you agree?
    - Are there different rules and expectations for those called to ministry? Why or why not?
- Check out what Jesus says in **John 15:12-17**.
  - Powerful stuff. This was said at the last supper after Judas had left. Does the context affect how it reads?
    - Would you interpret these verses differently if they were said to the masses?
  - Think of “you did not choose me” with the context of **Luke 6:12-13**.
    - Jesus did choose them!!!! They were separated out from other disciples. Drafted out of the citizens and chosen to become soldiers!
- Everyone has an important role to play. Don't believe the lie that your role is not important.
  - The Kingdom of God needs both law abiding productive Citizens and good Soldiers.
  - Everyone is invited by Jesus to be a law abiding productive Citizen of the Kingdom of God and to receive the benefits of citizenship.
- Expectations of Citizens:
  - Receive Jesus as your Savior and Lord. Worship God.
    - Meaning receive forgiveness and submit to God's authority.
  - Gather as the body of Christ. **1 Corinthians 12:27, Hebrews 10:25**
  - Pay your taxes: tithes and offerings.
    - In other words, they take care of their soldiers. **1 Timothy 5:17**
  - Serve/volunteer in various ways.
  - Some of the Citizens will be drafted to be Soldiers but not all.
    - Citizens should not feel guilty about not being soldiers!
    - Citizen is the PRIMARY call of the believers!
- Expectations of Soldiers:
  - Do whatever it takes to:
    - Rescue the lost from the fires of Hell.
    - Help the Citizens enjoy abundant life.
  - Paul explains it this way to Timothy: **2 Timothy 2:1-7**
    - Reflect on verses 2-6. What can be gathered from these 5 verses about what is expected of soldiers?
- The Lord needs soldiers.
  - If you are a soldier, you will never be satisfied until you enlist.
- Pray for each other before you finish up!