

# OBEDIENCE

## I. Obedience to Commanding Officers Is Key in Natural Warfare

- A. Because only commanding officers have a grasp of situation and plan
  
- B. Because individual units must work together

## II. Obedience Is Key in the Spiritual Conflict

- A. Because only the Lord can see what is happening and what is behind the activity
  - 1. We can know that the enemy is around us but we do not know exactly what he is doing
  
  - 2. By the time we are sure where the devil is working the situation is almost out of control.
  
- B. How are we to fight a fight where we cannot see the opponent?
  - 1. Obedience to the One who can see what is going on
    - a. Illustration of the minefield

### **III. We Fight an Enemy Which We Cannot See by Following the Instruction of the One Who Can**

#### A. Key areas where we can fail in this

##### 1. Prayer

- a. We do not follow the instruction of the model prayer

- (1) Daily

- (a) Keep us from temptation

- (b) Deliver us from the evil one

- b. Do not be anxious about anything - pray about everything

#### B. Love for the family of God

##### 1. Love is a key component of obedience

- a. John 14:15 - *If you love Me, you will keep my commandments.*

b. John 13:34 - *A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another.*

2. 75% of the commands the New Testament epistles record concern how we treat the people of God

a. This is not only important for my personal purity

b. It is important for the safety of every member of the body

(1) We are in the fight together

(2) We often have no idea of the attacks on those around us on the team

#### **IV. Reminder to Timothy (2 Timothy 2:5)**

A. Also, if anyone competes as an athlete, he does not win the prize unless he competes according to the rules

B. Spiritual victory demands learning the principles and following the instructions

*No soldier in active service entangles himself in the affairs of everyday life, so that he may please the one who enlisted him as a soldier. Also if anyone competes as an athlete, he does not win the prize unless he competes according to the rules. The hard-working farmer ought to be the first to receive his share of the crops.*

~ II Timothy 2:4-6