I. WELCOME, 15 mins.
Plan one to two icebreakers for the purpose of mixing around and getting group participation or getting acquainted.

II. WORSHIP, 20 mins.
Prayerfully choose a few songs to lead people into God’s presence. During this time, cell leaders will encourage cell members to listen to the Holy Spirit and release the words of strengthening, encouragement, and comfort they have received for the cell group, the church and nations. Upon each word shared, the cell leader will lead members by thanking and praising God for His promise and/or praying aloud together for the needs, etc.

During this time, the cell leader will also lead the group to pray aloud for: (1) the mission organization or daughter church that the cell group adopts (2) the church ministry needs (3) blessings for new comers, the sick.

MISSION ORGANIZATION: __________________, their needs: ____________
(Please contact the church if you don’t know the needs of the mission organization.)

CHURCH MINISTRY:
4/7-6/2: Financial Peace University Starts
4/26-27: Men’s Retreat (Theme: Becoming a Real Man). 1 week left to register!

III. WORD, 45 mins.
A. Sharing from last Sunday’s message.
1. What is the main message from last Sunday sermon? What did God say to you from the message?
2. How would you respond to the message? What action will you take after listening to the message?

B. Discussion Topic: Be a good soldier of Christ Jesus

**Scriptures:** 2 Timothy 2:1-13 (Please read Bible verses in turns)

**Memorizing Verse:** You then, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others. Join with me in suffering, like a good soldier of Christ Jesus. (2 Timothy 2:2-3 NIV)

Foreword: In the first chapter, Paul uses his own example to encourage Timothy to be faithful to the glorious gospel. Paul had been under constant hardships and persecutions. In Rome he was deserted by other fellow believers when he was in prison. The only exception came from Onesiphorus, who was not ashamed of Paul’s chains. On the contrary, he risked his life looking for Paul in order to help him and to comfort him in distress. Therefore, Paul urged Timothy to be strong in serving the Lord and doing his best to spread the torch of gospel to the generations to come. The same commission has been given to all God’s people, including us; who must consider themselves as good soldiers of Christ Jesus. However, what are the qualities we need to acquire in order to be a good soldier in Him?

1. **Keep a strong heart:**
   a. Be strong: God is the source of life and strength. In His grace, we are connected to the ever-flowing power. (2 Tim 2:2)
   b. Serve the Lord: Present gospel to people wherever we go. Do not be ashamed in preaching Jesus. In facing challenges, stay steadfast in our faith. Neither should one keep from speaking out because of one’s youth. Persevere and keep on building up others by your sound teachings. (2 Tim 2:2)
   c. Entrust to those reliable who are qualified to teach others: Choose co-workers who are faithful to God’s words in order to prosper the gospel. (2 Tim 2:2)
   d. Endure hardships: Keep one’s post even in dire situations. As good soldiers, there is nothing more important than carrying out what the Lord has committed to us.

2. **Be fully committed:** each one dedicated oneself to whichever field he/she serves the Lord, carrying out one’s duties faithfully:
   a. Remain focused: A well-trained soldier has to take immediate actions upon receiving orders. One command, one action, without fail. He cannot get distracted by civilian affairs, such as what to eat, what to wear... and so on. Only acting according to the given commands can please the commanding officer. In our case, Jesus is our commanding head on whom we should stay focused. The vision He imparts to us, the voice as well as the enabling help from the Holy Spirit, all come to aide us to finish our works.
   b. Be disciplined: For those who are engaged in a battle, they must keep themselves totally disciplined without thinking for themselves. They need to maintain regular exercises to maximize their strength. Christians alike need to be fed and equipped with God’s words, and at the same time exercise them out, so that our spiritual life gets to grow stronger and stronger. (2 Tim 2:5)
   c. Be diligent: Such as farmers toil at different seasons of the year, and
patiently wait for the harvest to come about, our hardworking is the same when the fields get ripe and harvest gathered, we can taste the fruit and get a share of the crop with joy. Those who sow in tears will reap with songs of joy. (2 Tim 2:6 & Psalm 126:5)

d. Put God on top of every thing: Do everything for the sake of the Lord. Ponder on His words and act accordingly. A person who gains wisdom and insight from God walks in His will and never gets astray. (2 Tim 2:6)

3. Knowing the truth of the Gospel:
   a. Jesus is of Deity and Flesh at the same time:
      i) Jesus is God: He is the only Son of God, who is equal to God. He incarnated and became flesh in order to save the fallen humanity.
      ii) Jesus is a human: He was born into the line of King David, in completely human flesh like us. Therefore He knows how we feel because he has experienced the weaknesses we have, the struggles we go through. His impeccable life has set a perfect example for us to follow.
      iii) Jesus suffered the pains and humility at cross in his human body; He took over our sins and transgressions. His resurrection at the 3rd day brings the forgiveness of God and reconciliation between God and human. We now can access God’s grace through His sacrificial work. (2 Tim 2:8).
   b. The gospel is God’s life-giving power: It breaks up the chains even under persecution or being imprisoned. It revives the soul so that one is empowered to follow His steps in spite of all the difficulties.
   c. The eternal glory: Jesus has entrusted to us the great commission of spreading the gospel to the end of the world. It should be a common goal shared by all the believers: to persevere until God’s Kingdom revealed on earth, His will done, and He has entered the eternal glory.

4. Closely connected to the Lord
   a. To die with Him and live with Him: We believe in dying with Him and living with Him when being baptized. There is a restored life and power in us since then, so that we may be able to face challenges in life and proclaim victory in front of foes. (2 Tim 2:11)
   b. To reign with Him: Jesus endures to carry out the salvation plan of the Father. Paul in turns follows Jesus’ steps in enduring and perseverance. In his faith, he foresees to reign with Jesus. We are called, in the same way, to endure in our difficulties in order to one day reign with Jesus. (2 Tim 2:12a)
   c. Proclaim Jesus is our Savior: In Romans 10:10 it says, “It is with your heart you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.” Consequently, when we disown Him, He will also disown us. (2 Tim 2:12b)
   d. Even if we are faithless, He remains faithful: It does happen sometimes when we are crippled by doubts and distrust because of our weaknesses. However, forever God stays faithful and his promises stand unwavering. He wants us to reign with Him and to share the glory in eternality yet to come. (2 Tim 2:13)

Discussion Questions:

1. Go through the list of 4 qualities for being God’s good soldiers. Which one(s) have you acquired and which you are still working on? Pray that God may help you to rid of your weaknesses and make you qualified one.
2. Imagine yourself a soldier, a fighter or a farmer. How do you commit yourself to produce the desired results?
3. How does an individual believer undertake God’s great commission? How about a cell group as a whole in fulfilling the obligations? (One might want to start from how he or she commits himself in the service in the cell group or at the church.)
4. How do you apply the 4 traits in the cell group, to make the vision “Create the culture; impact the world” become more effective?

Prayer:

Dear Lord, We thank you and praise your holy name. You have spoken to us through the encouraging words of Paul to Timothy. May the words uplift us and keep our whole beings in you. May our minds remain in you and our steps follow you, thus we may be fully committed to you. May the intimate connection with you bring us the power and strength we need to grow fruitful in our life. Make us your ambassador of your gospel and agent to pass it down to the next generations. Until the day you will is done on earth, that we may have a share of your joy and glory. All the glories and praises are due to you. We say this in the holy name of Jesus Christ. Amen!

IV. WORK (Pray for each other), 10 mins.

Please break into group of 2 or 3 to pray for each other’s needs.