



ACTIVE

But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. -Matthew 7:26

Imagine, if you will, a world where...

Active members of a military unit are on the battlefield sitting around while the fighting is going on. Explosions are rumbling the ground all around. Bullets are whizzing through the air. Plans have been carefully made and orders are in place. Guns are available in which they are trained to use. The enemy is moving and actively positioning to fight. They are severely out numbered and overpowered, but they are fighting as though they can win.

There is a problem.

The soldiers refuse to enter the battlefield. They are in the barracks arguing about who is the bravest fighter. Voices are raised. Occasional shoving. Everyone thinks they're the greatest fighter ever. Stories about past victories fill the air. Great tales of grandeur following each other like a train passing on the tracks of time. Heroes of long ago.

But today, a statue would be more of a fighter. Trees and clouds bring more combat than these soldiers. If words were bullets, there'd be no one standing. But stories don't fight. Words and bragging are useless. What is needed in this battle is someone to step up and obey the orders of the leader. Someone to remind them they are "active" members of the military. There is someone to fight.

True on the physical battlefield. True on the spiritual. The Church needs people to remember what and why they vowed to be when they accepted Jesus. It's not "fire Insurance" but a relationship bought by the Savior. It's not a call to the "lazy-boy of life" but to a war needing soldiers to fight.

I've always struggled with the term, "active member". Why is the word "active" needed? Doesn't being a member of the Body imply activity? If you're a member of a club, don't you do the activities? Church is not a place to watch a performance. It's a headquarters for the battle field. A place where Hell, though fighting, CANNOT win. Why? Because greater is He that is in us (which makes us the Church) than he that is in the world.

So gear up, soldier! Grab a weapon, go to the battle knowing God has won!

From My Heart,

Billy