

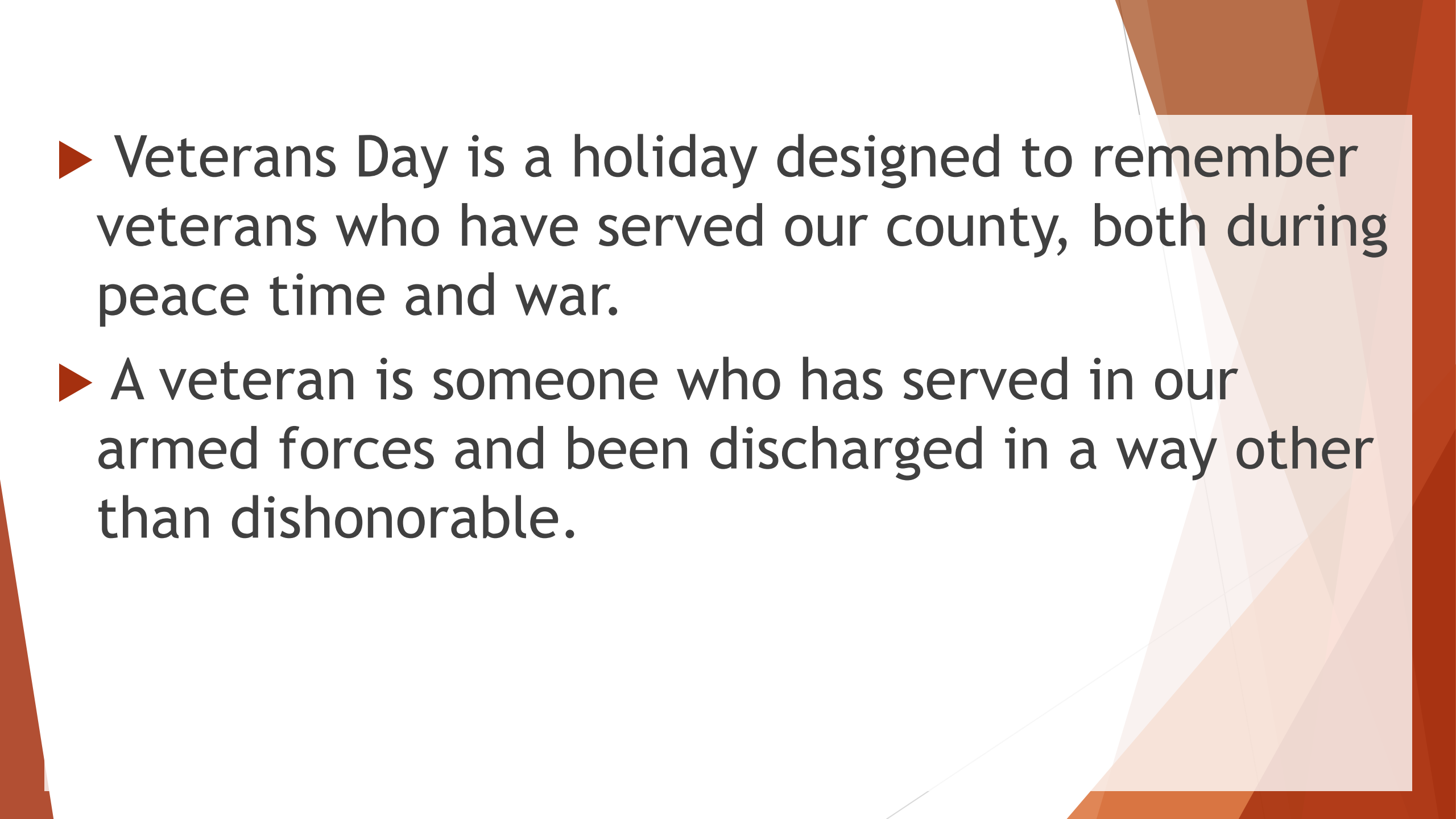
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Veterans Day

Learning from our Calendar (14)

My purpose - Reminder

- ▶ This year, I am preaching through the calendar - an ongoing study of holidays and observances we find on our calendars.
- ▶ This is not about observing these days as the church. But typically, what we see on the calendar causes us to reflect on what that day is about
- ▶ Tuesday, November 11, 2025 is Veterans Day. What can we learn from God's word based on this day?

- 
- ▶ Veterans Day is a holiday designed to remember veterans who have served our country, both during peace time and war.
 - ▶ A veteran is someone who has served in our armed forces and been discharged in a way other than dishonorable.

- ▶ This holiday originated in 1919 when Woodrow Wilson declared the annual observance of Armistice Day, which celebrated the cease fire at 11 am on November 11, 1918 of WWI.
- ▶ It was recognized by congress in 1926 and became a legal holiday in 1938.
- ▶ In 1954, it was changed to Veterans Day to honor veterans of all wars, etc. From 1971 till 1975 it was a part of the “Uniform holiday bill”, but then it reverted back to November 11th.

- ▶ Veterans Day is observed in communities with parades, ceremonies, family gatherings and as a national holiday.
- ▶ Officially, at 11:11 Pacific time (2:11 EST), 2 minutes of silence is recommended to remember those who have served.
- ▶ This is also an international holiday in many countries.
- ▶ **BUT our goal in this lesson: How can we make spiritual application to the meaning of this day?**

We are at war!

- ▶ The spiritual significance of this day is the reminder that we are in a spiritual war.
- ▶ **Ephesians 6:10-12ff** – the nature of our war
- ▶ **2 Corinthians 10:3-5** – the weapons of our warfare are not carnal...
- ▶ **1 Peter 2:11** - fleshly lusts are warring against the soul



We are at war!



- ▶ **John 15:19-20** – the world hated Jesus, and it will hate us also
- ▶ **1 Peter 5:8-9** – we are to be sober & vigilant because our adversary, the devil, seeks to devour us
- ▶ **1 Timothy 6:12** – fight the good fight of faith
3:18 - wage the good warfare
- ▶ **Jude 3** - contend earnestly for the faith...

Faith of our Fathers - “spiritual veterans”



- ▶ This “war” is ongoing and will be until our Lord returns. But we are NOT the first generation to fight this war. There are many “veterans” who have valiantly fought to pave the way for us.
- ▶ A “spiritual veteran” is one who has demonstrated mature faithfulness and fought the good fight.

Faith of our Fathers - “spiritual veterans”



- ▶ Examples of faithfulness in battle
- ▶ Throughout Israel's history, we find soldiers who put their trust in God delivering His people from their enemies.
- ▶ They laid the foundation for our salvation. Even those of physical Israel prepared a nation and people to bring our Savior into this world.
- ▶ The safety of the land was in God's plan!

Faith of our Fathers - “spiritual veterans”



Moses

- ▶ **Hebrews 11:24-26**, in a sense, Moses was “commander in chief” as he led Israel out of Egypt and through the wilderness.
- ▶ With God’s help, he motivated a stubborn people to leave Egypt and cross the Red Sea where they saw the salvation of the LORD (**Exodus 14:13, 30**)
- ▶ Eventually they inherited their promised land.

Faith of our Fathers - “spiritual veterans”



Moses

- ▶ We owe gratitude to him because of the battles he fought - both within and without.
- ▶ There is a reason the old law is called “The Law of Moses” (**Joshua 8:31-32, Acts 28:23**)
- ▶ **Galatians 3:24**, *Therefore, the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith.*

Faith of our Fathers - “spiritual veterans”



Joshua

- ▶ He led Israel as general in the wilderness, and in conquering the land of Canaan (God's promise land).
- ▶ He was faithful to God, even when most were not - **Numbers 14:6-9**
- ▶ He was a man of great courage and faith - **Joshua 1:6-7, 9, 18, 10:25.**
- ▶ **Joshua 24:15**, *Choose who you will serve... we will serve the LORD.*

Faith of our Fathers - “spiritual veterans”

Deborah

- ▶ One of Israel’s judges (**Judges 4 & 5**), who led Israel in battle against the Canaanites.
- ▶ She did what was needed (when men would not).
- ▶ In her, we are reminded that women are also engaged in this spiritual war.
- ▶ As they faithfully serve God in their role, they too ought to be recognized and appreciated.



Faith of our Fathers - “spiritual veterans”

David

- ▶ A man after God’s own heart.
- ▶ His life demonstrates valiant courage against enemies, both physically and spiritually. He trusted and fought for God throughout his life. He grounded a nation to trust in YHWH.
- ▶ **1 Samuel 17:45**, as he confronted Goliath.
- ▶ **Psalms 18:39**, *For You have armed me with strength for the battle; You have subdued under me those who rose up against me.*
- ▶ **Psalms 27:1**, *The LORD is my light and my salvation; Whom shall I fear? The LORD is the strength of my life; Of whom shall I be afraid?*



Faith of our Fathers - “spiritual veterans”

David

- ▶ We also see his humility and gratitude as he leads the people.
- ▶ **2 Samuel 7**, his desire to build a house for God
- ▶ **2 Samuel 11-12, Psalm 51**, In repentance for his sins



Faith of our Fathers - “spiritual veterans”

Paul

- ▶ A warrior for all mankind. He was not a military man, but he always fought for what he believed was right. **Acts 26:9, 23:1.** That integrity continued after he obeyed the gospel.
- ▶ Paul continually emphasized our spiritual warfare and fought for God’s people.



Faith of our Fathers - “spiritual veterans”

Paul

- ▶ He lived a life of great sacrifice and total devotion to further the cause of Christ, and overcome Satan.
- ▶ **2 Timothy 4:6-8**, He fought the good fight...
- ▶ *We owe a great debt of gratitude for his work*
 - **2 Corinthians 12:15** - he would spend and be spent
 - **Colossians 1:24** - rejoicing in suffering for the sake of the church
 - **2 Timothy 2:10** - for the sake of the elect



Faith of our Fathers - “spiritual veterans”

Hebrews 11:32-40

- ▶ The writer concludes his list of faithful endurance by describing what many went through for the sake of the gospel.
- ▶ **Vs. 40**, *God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us.*



Faith of our Fathers - “spiritual veterans”

Jesus, our ultimate warrior

- ▶ Why did Jesus come to earth? To fight for us!
- ▶ **John 16:33**, He overcame the world
- ▶ **John 12:31-32** - *Now the ruler of this world will be cast out,... I... will draw all peoples to Myself.*
- ▶ **Luke 10:18**, *I saw Satan fall like lightning.*
- ▶ We owe Him our gratitude!

Galatians 5:1, Colossians 2:15, Hebrews 2:14-15, 1 John 3:8, Colossians 1:13, Hebrews 12:1-2, etc.



Lessons to Consider

- ▶ As we fight this spiritual war, let us consider “veterans” who have gone before and learn from their examples. We would not be here without them.
- ▶ Is there a “veteran of the cross” in your life? Someone responsible for bringing you to Him (or bringing you back)?
- ▶ Are there faithful “soldiers of the cross” that have passed on?
- ▶ Are there faithful men and women who are continuing to serve our Lord, having fought the good fight? E.g., elders, preachers, teachers, examples. **Titus 2:1-8, Hebrews 13:7, 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13**



Lessons to Consider

- ▶ Are you enlisted in His army?
- ▶ **2 Timothy 2:3-4**
- ▶ Often veterans serve a vital role in recruiting.
- ▶ Spiritually, there are those striving to “recruit” you into His service - **Mark 16:15-16, Philippians 2:15, 2 Timothy 2:2, etc.**



Lessons to Consider

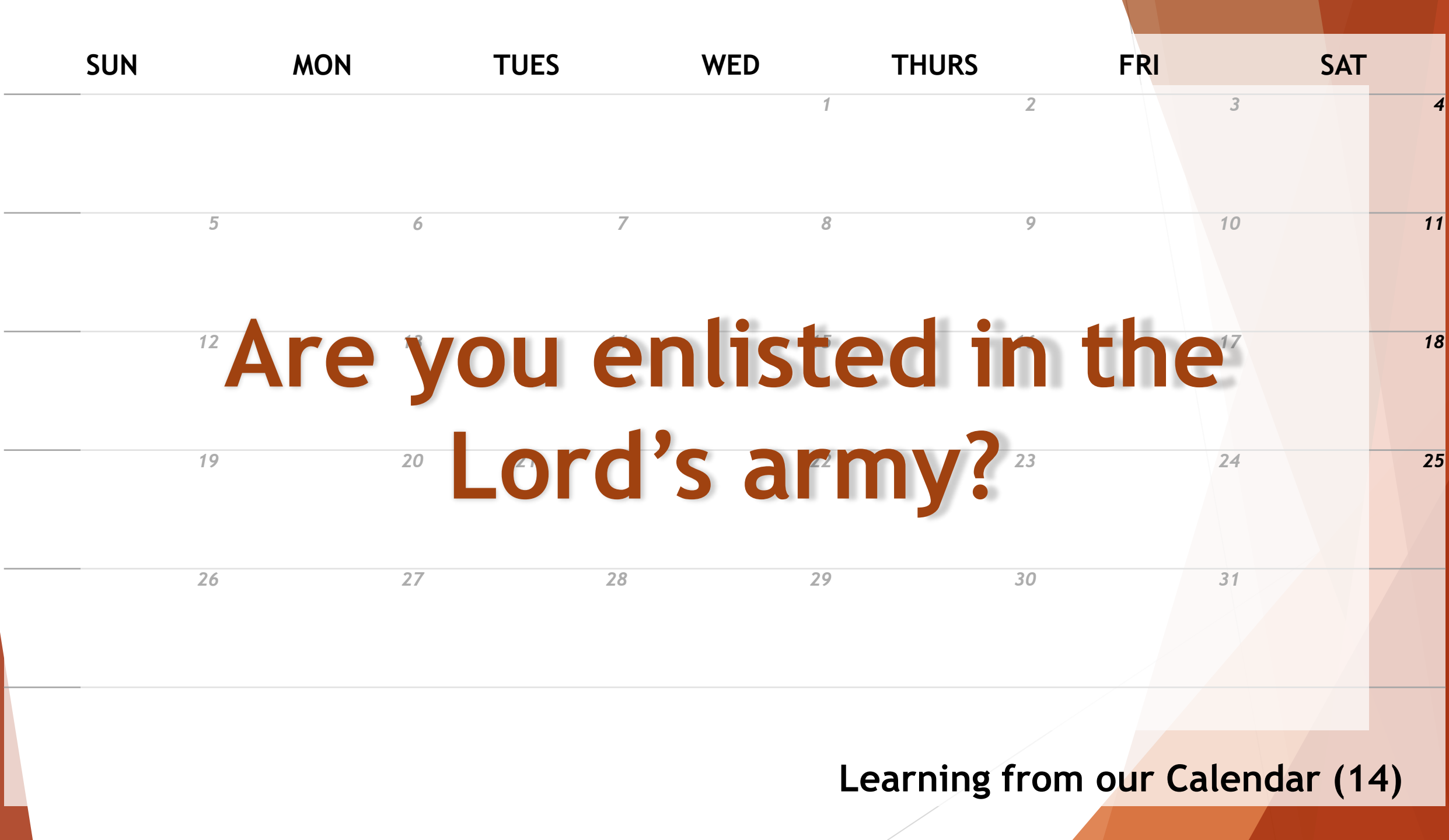
- ▶ Our battle is not fought in vain.
- ▶ Sometimes, men fight in wars and lose. And in our spiritual warfare it may SEEM like we are losing. We may even lose a battle
- ▶ BUT, the outcome of the war has already been determined - **Proverbs 21:31**, *The horse is prepared for the day of battle, But deliverance is of the LORD.*
- ▶ **Romans 8:31, 37, Philippians 4:13, 1 John 4:4, etc.**



Concluding thoughts

- ▶ It is good for us to pause and consider those who have fought the spiritual battles that give us our hope.
- ▶ May such motivate us to stand true to His will.
- ▶ ALSO, it is good to pause and give thanks for veterans who have fought for our freedoms, often at tremendous sacrifices.
- ▶ Such sacrifices are why we are here! Let us NEVER take these things for granted. AND let us use our freedoms to bring glory to God





SUN

MON

TUES

WED

THURS

FRI

SAT

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

**Are you enlisted in the
Lord's army?**

Learning from our Calendar (14)

