

## A Word from the General

Gen. George Smith Patton Jr. (1885 – 1945) was a United States Army officer best known for his leadership while commanding corps and armies during World War II. He was also known for his eccentricity and controversial outspokenness.

In his book, *General Patton's Principles for Life and Leadership*, he wrote:

*Picking the right leader is the most important task of any commander. I line up the candidates and say, "Men, I want a trench dug behind warehouse 10. Make this trench eight feet long, three feet wide and six inches deep."*

*While the candidates are checking their tools out at the warehouse, I watch them from a distance. They puzzle over why I want such a shallow trench. They argue over whether six inches is deep enough for a gun emplacement. Some complain that such a trench should be dug with power equipment. Others gripe that it is too hot or too cold to dig. If the men are above the rank of lieutenant, there will be complaints that they should not be doing such lowly labor. Finally, one man will order, "What difference does it make what he wants to do with this trench? Let's get it dug and get out of here!"*

*That man will get the promotion. Pick the man who can get the job done!*



Or, as we say in the South, "Git 'er done!"

God, too, is looking for people to whom He can give authority and responsibility. He gives people jobs and watches to see how they respond.

Most of all, God is looking for obedience and faithfulness to Him. He made us, and He has a plan for each of our lives.

*Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth (2 Timothy 2:15).*

– Beecher Hunter