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# RESTING IN GOD'S SHADOW

#### ENCOURAGEMENT FOR MILITARY BOOTCAMP

CHAPLAIN (MAJOR) JEFFREY LYNN BROOKS, US ARMY (RETIRED) RESTING IN GOD'S SHADOW

## ENCOURAGEMENT FOR MILITARY BOOT CAMP

CHAPLAIN (MAJOR) JEFFREY LYNN BROOKS

Boot Camp. The starting point for everyone who joins the military. No one who signs up expects it to be easy. It's not supposed to be. But everyone at some point during boot camp comes to the end of their own strength. It is at that point where a little encouragement makes all the difference. *Resting in God's Shadow* offers encouragement specifically written for those in this especially challenging period of the military.

Chaplain (Major) Jeffrey L. Brooks, U.S. Army Retired knows what he's talking about, with 22 years of active military service. During that time, he served as chaplain at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, encouraging the men and women in boot camp to never give up on themselves or their dreams, keep a positive mental attitude, and give it their best. Since then he's had a passion to write these encouragements into a book.

This book is a collection of twelve devotionals, followed by a prayer book with spaces to record your thoughts. The devotionals in Part One correspond with the prayer book in Part Two. Concise and focused devotions fit into even the most rigorous training schedule. Whether you're active in the military or have a loved one headed to boot camp, this devotional is sure to provide just the right words of encouragement and Scripture.





# About the Author CHAPLAIN (MAJOR) JEFFREY LYNN BROOKS

Chaplain (Major) Jeffrey Lynn Brooks, U.S. Army (Retired), is a graduate of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary and is ordained by the Evangelical Church Alliance. Prior to being commissioned into the Army

chaplaincy, Jeff served in the Marine Corps for seven years. In 2003, Jeff deployed to the Iraq War for a year where he served as a battalion chaplain in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. He was later awarded the Bronze Star Medal for his service in Iraq.

In 2013, Chaplain Brooks completed his twenty-two years of active military service while stationed at Tobyhanna Army Depot, Pennsylvania. After retirement, Jeff bought his first home in Tampa, Florida, where he now resides. One of the highlights of his career was serving as chaplain at Fort Leonard in Wood, Missouri. His time there encouraging the men and women in boot camp inspired him to write *Resting in God's Shadow*.

### Connect with the Author E-Mail: mychaplain@yahoo.com



# What Others Are Saying About Resting in God's Shadow

"Throughout a service member's career, they are going to learn a lot about the development and use of resiliency—building mental, physical, emotional, behavioral, and spiritual strength to enhance their ability to manage the rigors and challenges of a demanding profession. Chaplain Brooks' knowledge and experience has rightly identified that this development needs to begin in boot camp or basic combat training. These young men and women have volunteered to serve their nation and are transitioning into Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, and Marines. *Resting in God's Shadow* inspires them to maintain a positive attitude and to never give up on themselves or their dreams in spite of the challenges they face, and throughout it all to give their very best."

#### -Patrick D Quinn III, Colonel, US Army

"Jeffery Brooks is a man who has been both a Marine and in the Army. His skills accompanied by his servant heart make him the right man to pen this book. I feel that it will even reach further than he thinks. I can see coaches giving this to some of the players in the NFL or NBA. I am proud to support this book and Jeffrey Books."

#### -Dwayne Foster, President & CEO, Stinson Press Inc.

"Finished your book and I think you are right on; it should provide encouragement to those in any military boot camp, or life in general, and struggling to get through the change from civilian to military life. For some it is easy; for others the change is traumatic and they need encouragement."

#### -LCDR John Glynn of Glynstewart, OSt.J, FSA Scot, MBA, USN (Ret.)

"Chaplain Brooks is a combat-experienced, well-trained Army chaplain who is dedicated to caring for fellow service members. As a commander in combat, I witnessed his desire to help Soldiers and assist them through numerous emotionally and spiritually difficult times. These devotionals are designed to help all initial entry military trainees adapt to and overcome new challenges presented to them with their decision to serve."

#### -Sonja Granger Dyer, Lieutenant Colonel, US Army



### Suggested Interview Questions For Chaplain Major Jeffrey Lynn Brooks, author of *Resting in God's Shadow Encouragement for Military Bootcamp*

## Q: Have you, yourself Jeff, ever had any experience with military boot camp? Have you been through boot camp yourself? Tell us about that.

**A:** Yes, I graduated from Marine Corps boot camp in 1978. Then, prior to my last assignment in the Army, I was a boot camp chaplain at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. So, I understand the boot camp experience from the perspective of a person who has been through that experience, and from the perspective of a chaplain who cared for and encouraged young men and women in boot camp themselves. I've been there and I understand.

#### Q: How did you end up writing this book?

**A:** One of the high points of my military career was serving as a boot camp chaplain. Since then, I have wanted to write a short devotional book to provide encouragement for men and women in boot camp. In this book, I have done *my best* to bring out *their best* during boot camp.

### Q: What would you say is one of the best things that trainees can do for themselves during boot camp?

**A:** One of the best things you can do for yourself during boot camp is to make friends and connect positively with other trainees. We need to stay connected with people who encourage us and bring out our best.

#### Q: In the first section of your book you talk about "Letting Go and Forgiving People." Can you tell us why you feel that forgiveness is important during boot camp?

**A:** Yes, while we are in boot camp we need to let go and forgive people. Nothing good comes from holding on to bitterness toward people. One of the best things that I decided to do myself, was to learn to let go and forgive people. I think that it is important to be forgiving during boot camp.

#### Q: What is the main theme of your new book?

**A:** The theme of my book is "Never give up on yourself or your dreams, keep a positive mental attitude, and give your best during boot camp."

