

August 26, 1917.

My own darling girl:- This
sure is a beautiful Sunday.
Only a few clouds in the clear
blue sky and it is cool. Last
night I had to have two
blankets on in order to keep
warm. Grace even if I don't
like this military life I am
getting to learn things, mainly
things that refer to man's
welfare spiritually and physically.
I see God's hand in all things,
how he keeps us and how
he guides us. I just finished
reading a book ~~to~~ written
to the soldier and his

relationship to God. It is a wonderful book and I enjoyed every word of it. Then it gives warning to the soldier and how to keep away from evil. Have you ever thought my dear, that the hardest fight a soldier has is himself, it is not on the battlefield, but within himself. If he can conquer evil and evil thoughts and come out the victor his battle is won. I believe this is true. When I think it over and can imagine the difference between a man going on the battle field,

the one has conquered himself
and the other has not. The
former has only one ^{battle} fight to
fight while the other has
two and nine times out of
ten the man that goes in
to fight one battle comes out
alive. I am so glad I have
given my heart to God and
that he is leading me
wherever I go. Don't think
this a sermon Grace dear
but I had it on my mind
and I just thought I would
~~write~~ ^{tell} it to you.

I enjoyed the church
service today. Our Chaplain
is a fine old man. He

knows how to get at the young man. He gets right in the midst of them and it makes us all one.

Grace, I am going to ask you a question. I wish you were here so I could speak to you personally. Do you think any less of me for kissing you and holding you in my arms the way ~~we~~ ^I did when I was home? I know that I don't think any less of you for allowing it. I did it because I love you and because you love me, and knowing that we trust each other to the last our thoughts and

actions were only of the
parent. Let me know ~~how~~ ^{what}
you think my dear. I feel you
think the same as I do but
I want to know your thoughts
Grace.

Just received your welcome
letter of the 24, and will answer
it. I wish many more could
see the harm of a show. I am
glad you are convinced of its
nothingness. I never could see
any thing to it and never will.
Besides wasting your money
you are wasting your time.

I knew you wouldn't
want me home as a slacker,
when I get home, then you can
look at the other girls
sweethearts who stared at

home. I knew you wouldn't
leave me. I hope you will never
find a good reason.

I'll bet you are sorry I
lost my sleep. I see you
laughing to your self when
you wrote that.

I feel more and more certain
that I am coming home to
you so don't worry Grace dear.

You can't imagine how
good your letter made me
feel Grace. It complete a
perfect day, so you can tell
what your letter mean to
me.

I am going out to take pictures
so will close for this time.

All my love and mistakes are
for you my dear,
from your Marine,
Dave.