

BE A BRINGER

“40 One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. 41 He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated, the Christ). 42 And he brought him to Jesus....” John 1:40-42a

A bringer makes one touch each week by investing and inviting someone to Christ and church.

Name three people you will pray for their salvation this week:

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE WEEK

“Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you;....” I Samuel 12:23a



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FEARLESS
2TIMOTHY
GROWTH GUIDE

Handout: 5/7/2017
Study: 5/14/17

Fearless—Stir up the Gift

Paul mentions four qualities which were specifically geared to Timothy’s disposition. But, of course, they apply to us all:

Exercise Your Gifts Without Timidity

Timothy was not naturally bold. He shied away from conflict or confrontation. But the fact is, we’re engaged in spiritual warfare and you don’t win wars by being passive or cowardly. People will not grow in Christ and the church will not stand against the forces of evil if we do not overcome the fear of opposition and conflict.

Exercise Your Gifts With Power

This is not the power of the flesh as seen in worldly assertiveness training. This is the power of the Holy Spirit, resting on the truth of God’s authoritative Word. The aim of this power is not so that you can control others, but so that you can help them come under God’s control, to conquer sin and heal broken relationships.

Exercise Your Gifts in Love

Biblical love is concerned for the spiritual well being of others. Love for others will give you the boldness to overcome your fears so that you can speak to them about their need for Christ or their need to obey His Word. Love for God and others should be your motivation whenever you exercise your spiritual gifts.

Exercise Your Gifts With Discipline

The nuance of the word used here is of a sound mind controlling your life so that you don’t react in a sinful emotional outburst and so that you do not yield to impulses of the flesh. It means that you use the gifts that God has given you in a sensible, controlled manner, in line with God’s purposes in each situation.

So Paul is telling Timothy, “Because you are saved, you must serve Jesus Christ.” He has gifted you to serve Him, but you’ve got to discover, develop, kindle, and exercise your gifts. This does not mean volunteering to do some job in the local church, although it may certainly include that. Rather, it is an attitude or mindset, where you realize that because God rescued you from a life of sin and selfishness, you are not your own. You belong to Him and He has you on this planet to serve Him in some capacity.

(edited excerpt from <https://bible.org/seriespage/lesson-2-saved-serve-2-timothy-16-7>)

KEY VERSE

2 Timothy 1:6

“Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands. “

WEEKLY READINGS

Monday: 1 Timothy 1:1-7

Do you believe that God has given you a gift?

The phrase “stir up” can also be translated “to fan into a flame” or to “rekindle”. Consider your gifts and how you use them. Would you say that your fire is burning strong or in need of rekindling?

Tuesday: Ephesians 2:1-10

Salvation is a Prerequisite for Spiritual Gifts

In your own words, how does someone receive salvation from God?

How does our salvation then lead us to serve God?

Who taught Timothy about God? Who are you telling about Jesus?

Wednesday: Romans 12:6-8; 1 Peter 4:10-11

God Gives A Gift to Every Believer

Read Romans 12:3; 1 Corinthians 12:7; Ephesians 4:7; and 1 Peter 4:10. According to these four short verses, who receives a spiritual gift from God?

It is significant that in each of the four main biblical references to spiritual gifts, it specifies that *every* Christian has a gift. What do you think was Timothy’s spiritual gift?

Thursday: Read 1 Corinthians 12:4-11; Ephesians 4:11-16

Exercise Your Gift

Do you know what your spiritual gifts are? How can you find out?

Capital Baptist Church would love to assist you by leading you in an assessment that includes a survey about your personality, interests, experience, and your spiritual gifts inventory. We refer to it as the “purple folder”. Ask a staff member for one to start the process.

In what ways did Paul encourage Timothy? Do you have someone in your life to encourage and pray for you? Are you that to someone else?

Friday:

Do Our Gifts need Rekindling?

Do your gifts need rekindling? What are some reasons your fire may have grown cold?

Below are some areas to consider:

-We may need to start by rekindling our love for Jesus: It’s easy to drift into spiritual apathy or distance from Christ. Don’t let your love for Jesus Christ grow cold!

-Our gifts may need to be rekindled because of disuse: There are lots of reasons we may not be exercising our gifts. But it is not too late to start using them.

-We may need to rekindle when serving is difficult to do: Paul was in prison, with people attacking him. False teachers were perverting the gospel. If Timothy got involved, he would undoubtedly catch flak. Because of his timid nature, it was easier not to use his gifts. But if you only serve when it is convenient or when you feel like it or when you think it’s safe, you really aren’t serving God at all.

If you are using your gifts, what do you need to do to keep the fire going?

If you aren’t using your gifts at the moment, what steps might God be asking you to take?