



2 TIMOTHY

REMAIN FAITHFUL

Instructions for a Faithful Life

2 Timothy 1:6-7

2 Timothy Context

- Approximately AD 66, Nero was the Roman emperor and Christians were public enemy number one.
- Paul was in a Roman prison, perhaps the Mamertine Prison known for its darkness, dampness, and unsanitary conditions.
- Paul was anticipating a hearing which will almost certainly result in his execution.
- Most of Paul's friends had deserted him, no one supported him at his first trial (2 Tim. 4:6).

The Purpose for the Letter

A. Personal Reasons

Paul loved Timothy and wanted to see him (2 Tim 1:4; 2 Tim 4:9; 2 Tim 4:21).

B. Practical Reasons

2 Timothy 4:13 When you come bring the cloak which I left at Troas with Carpus, and the books, especially the parchments.

C. Profound Reasons

⇒ Encourage Timothy to **remain faithful**.

Outline of 2 Timothy

- I. Introduction (1:1-5)
- II. Remain Faithful to Minister Amidst Suffering (1:6-2:13)
- III. Remain Faithful to Hold Fast God's Word Against False Teaching (2:14-3:9)
- IV. Remain Faithful to Proclaim the Word Even When Others Turn Away (3:10-4:8)
- V. Concluding Remarks (4:9-22)

Outline of 2 Timothy

- I. Introduction (1:1-5)
- II. **Remain Faithful to Minister Amidst Suffering (1:6-2:13)**
 - A. Instructions for a faithful ministry (1:6-18)
 - B. Illustrations for a faithful ministry (2:1-13)
- III. Remain Faithful to Hold Fast God's Word Against False Teaching (2:14-3:9)
- IV. Remain Faithful to Proclaim the Word Even When Others Turn Away (3:10-4:8)
- V. Concluding Remarks (4:9-22)

2 Timothy 1:6–11

For this reason I remind you to kindle afresh the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands. For God has not given us a spirit of timidity, but of power and love and discipline.

Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord or of me His prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel according to the power of God, who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was granted us in Christ Jesus from all eternity, but now has been revealed by the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel, for which I was appointed a preacher and an apostle and a teacher.

1. Rekindle your zeal

2 Timothy 1:6 For this reason I remind you to kindle afresh the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands.

For this reason – looks back at verses 3-5 and the Paul's confidence in Timothy's faith

kindle afresh – to rekindle, fan into flame, keep the fire alive



2 Timothy 1:6 For this reason I remind you to kindle afresh **the gift of God which is in you** through the laying on of my hands.

the gift of God which is in you – *charisma*, a grace-gift; a divine enablement to serve the Lord

- Timothy's giftedness included evangelizing (2 Tim. 4:5), preaching (1 Tim. 4:11-13), and shepherding (1 Tim. 5).
- We all have spiritual gifts (Eph. 4:4-7)!
- Our gifts are given to serve others to the glory of God (1 Pet. 4:10-11).
- Don't take a quiz to determine your spiritual gift, instead, just start serving others in various way and discover what is both effective and affirmed by others.

2 Timothy 1:6 For this reason I remind you to kindle afresh the gift of God which is in you **through the laying on of my hands.**

through the laying on of my hands

- In Paul's first letter to Timothy, he also mentioned the laying on of hands (1 Tim. 4:14).

Is there some laying on of hands that is needed for every believer to receive a spiritual gift?

No. We see the practice of laying on of hands typically fall into four categories:

- Blessing children (Matt. 19:13-15; Mark 10:16)
- Healing (Mark 5:23; 6:5; Acts 9:17; 28:8)
- Receiving the Holy Spirit (Acts 8:17-19; 9:17; 19:6)
- Ordaining or commissioning to an office (Acts 6:6; 13:3; 1 Tim. 5:22)

2 Timothy 1:6 For this reason I remind you to kindle afresh the gift of God which is in you **through the laying on of my hands.**

What is the connection between the spiritual gift and the laying on of hands here?

A. A supernatural event is occurring here, but this only happened in the early days of the church during a time of transition.

Now, it was no doubt the custom to lay on hands at the ordination of Christian ministers by the apostles, and there was an excellent reason for it, for gifts were thereby conveyed to the ordained, and when we can find anybody who can thereby confer some spiritual gift upon us, we shall be glad to have their hands laid on our heads, but empty hands we care not for. Rites cease when their meaning ceases.

—Charles Spurgeon

B. The laying on of hands was representative of God's internal work being later recognized by Paul and the other church leaders.

Why did Paul think it was necessary to remind Timothy to kindle afresh his spiritual giftedness?

Timothy had been in ministry about 15 years – a hard 15 years.

Perhaps Timothy was in danger of waning in his ministry passion due to:

- Age (1 Tim. 4:12)
- Ailments (1 Tim. 5:23)
- Adversaries (1 Tim. 1:3-7)
- Allurements (2 Tim. 2:4)
- Abashment (2 Tim. 1:7)

Why might you lose your zeal in your service to others?

- Distracted by other pursuits
- Disregarded by a lack of appreciation
- Disrupted due to personal sin
- Discouraged by the criticism of others
- Disappointed when things don't go your way



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2. Realize what you have received

2 Timothy 1:7 For God has not given us a spirit of timidity, but of power and love and discipline.

For – the reason or incentive that we must kindle afresh our zeal

Spirit or spirit? – There is debate on whether this is referring to the Holy Spirit or the spiritual character created by the Holy Spirit. But is this a false dichotomy?

- All believers are indwelt by the Holy Spirit (Rom. 8:9)
- Our daily strength comes through the power of the Holy Spirit (Eph 3:16)
- Our sanctification is accomplished by the Holy Spirit (2 Thess 2:13)

2 Timothy 1:7 For God has not given us a spirit of timidity, but of power and love and discipline.

What spirit has God given?

- Not one of timidity (Acts 4:13; Acts 8; Acts 14)
- Power (Acts 1:8; Eph. 1:18-20)
- Love (Gal. 5:22; Rom. 5:5)
- Discipline (Rom. 12:3; 1 Cor. 9:26-27)

[This word] carries the additional idea of a self-controlled, disciplined, and properly prioritized mind. God-given discipline allows believers to control every element of their lives, whether positive or negative. It allows them to experience success without becoming proud and to suffer failure without becoming bitter or hopeless. The disciplined life is the divinely ordered life, in which godly wisdom is applied to every situation.

—John MacArthur

Application

- 1) Rekindle your zeal
- 2) Realize what you have received

