

Living Above the Fray

The Choice

2 Timothy 1:6-7

2 Timothy 1:6 - 18

⁶ For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. ⁷ For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline.

Fan the Flame

The challenge:

Fan into flame the gift of God

1. The gift comes from God.

⁶ We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man's gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith. ⁷ If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; ⁸ if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully. Romans 12:6–8

Fan the Flame

The challenge:

Fan into flame the gift of God

1. The gift comes from God.
2. You have a responsibility to cultivate and utilize the gift that you have received.
3. Your gift is either a blessing or an indictment.

Matthew 25

Fan the Flame

The choices:

Fear

Timidity (Cowardice)

Faith

Power

“a forcefulness of character that
can use authority boldly.”

Lea & Griffin

Fan the Flame

Faith

Power

Love

“a love that endures even the most cantankerous person.”

“This love is not so much a love that produces ministry as a love that conquers contempt and opposition by forgiveness and refusal to seek revenge.”

Fan the Flame

Faith

Power

Love

Self-discipline

“that can use restraint and oppose indulgence.”

“refers to ‘a wise head,’ which provides wise guidance for the use of power and love.”

The Method

Rekindling his gifts would involve fervent prayer, obedience to God's word, and demonstration of active faith by Timothy.

If a person fears Satan's persecuting power more than he trusts God's ability and ever-readiness to help, he has lost his mental balance. Surely, Timothy has not reached that point! Let him then hold on to the truth. Let him cling to it by giving it away ... as did Lois and Eunice!

Hendriksen, W., & Kistemaker, S. J. (1953/2001). *Exposition of the Pastoral Epistles* (Vol. 4, p. 230). Grand Rapids: Baker Book House.

To Go . . .

1. Does church in America lack power? If so why?
2. Why do we often settle for timidity rather than living boldly?
3. What discipline(s) would help you “fan into flame” the gifts that God has given you in Christ?