

how does the realization of God's power give you strength to stand against that fear?

The love that Paul tells us we have received from God is the Greek word agape. It embodies the complete and selfless love that we see in John 3:16. It is more than having affection or brotherly love.

If we are going to share God's love we must first receive God's love. How do you best receive God's love- through prayer, reading of His Word, Worship or something else? Is there time in your daily routine to receive God's love so that you can pour it out in love of your neighbor and generosity to other?

The word for self-disciple (*sōphronismos*) is rooted in the concept of having a sound mind and observing moderation. In what way is a lack of self-discipline the opposite of moderation? What are some of the behaviors that might be associated with a lack of self-discipline?

Applying the self-discipline that God offers us transforms us and leads to a life of holiness pleasing to Him.

WRAP-UP

Our church has been blessed by God for 75 years. Over that course of time generations of believers have passed on their faith and made known God's power and mighty works to encourage those of us who attend New Life today. God is still at work, and His Spirit has deposited various gifts in His people so that we can carry on the work of loving God and loving others. We don't want to grow weary and neglect what God has given us. We don't want to let the spirit of this world make us fearful. Let's be a church that trust God to use us to be a city on a hill, shining His light for the world to see.

MEMORY VERSE

4 We will not hide these truths from our children; we will tell the next generation about the glorious deeds of the LORD, about his power and his mighty wonders. - Psalm 78:4 NLT

Challenge- Ask God to show you someone He wants you to encourage in the faith. Share your story with them, and pray for them this week.

New Life 75th Anniversary September 29, 2024

INTRODUCTION

This weekend we celebrated New Life's 75th Anniversary. It reminded us of the foundation of faith laid by those who came before us. This week's study examines how generational faith was passed down to Timothy and our responsibility to pass our faith to the generations who will follow us.

Ice Breaker

When did you first attend New Life and what brought you here?

Key Passage

5 I remember your genuine faith, for you share the faith that first filled your grandmother Lois and your mother, Eunice. And I know that same faith continues strong in you. 6 This is why I remind you to fan into flames the spiritual gift God gave you when I laid my hands on you. 7 For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline. - 2 Timothy 1:5-7 NLT

STUDY QUESTIONS

1. Remember Your Roots

5 I remember your genuine faith, for you share the faith that first filled your grandmother Lois and your mother, Eunice. And I know that same faith continues strong in you.

-2 Timothy 1:5-7 NLT

Timothy was raised in a Godly family. Paul had known his mother and grandmother who were both believers. Some of us were fortunate to have our faith supported by the family that raised us, and others found faith that their families hadn't known.

What is your faith story? Were you raised in a Cristian home? If so, share a bit about who in your family most encouraged you in your faith. If not, how did you become a believer, and have you been able to share your faith with your family?

4 We will not hide these truths from our children; we will tell the next generation about the glorious deeds of the LORD, about his power and his mighty wonders. - Psalm 78:4 NLT

Psalm 78 says we will tell our children about God's power and mighty wonders. This is part of the evidence of our faith that Paul was referring to in his letter to Timothy. What are the ways God has shown His power and wonders in your life?

Paul not only recognized the faith passed down to Timothy, but he also prayed for Timothy and reminded him to remember his roots. At times we will be Timothy, needing someone to support us through prayer and encouragement, and at other times we need to be Paul, praying for and encouraging those younger than us who may be discouraged, or weary in their spiritual walk.

Who in your life is your Timothy and who is your Paul?

2. Fan into Flame

When we think of passing our faith to the next generation, we are talking in terms of many years. Even for faithful followers of Jesus, sometimes we feel worn down and weary.

6 This is why I remind you to fan into flames the spiritual gift God gave you when I laid my hands on you. -2 Timothy 1:5-7 NLT

4 There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. - 1 Corinthians 12:4 NIV

Paul tells Timothy to rekindle the gift God had given him. God gives each of us gifts to be used in cooperation with the Spirit to do His work. You can find bible passages that list various spiritual gifts, such as grace, faith, knowledge, and prophesy to name a few.

Regardless of which gift(s) Timothy possessed, it was deposited by the Holy Spirit and would be used to benefit the body and accomplish God's

purposes. Do you know what gift or gifts God has deposited in you so that you can use them to serve the body and accomplish God's purposes? If you are unsure, there are assessments you can use to help you identify your gifts.

Here is one assessment we recommend -
<https://fivefold.3dmovements.com/>

*10 Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.
- 1 Peter 4:10 NIV*

What opportunities do you have to use your God-given gifts? What might you do to rekindle them?

3. Spirit of the World or Spirit of God

*12 And we have received God's Spirit (not the world's spirit), so we can know the wonderful things God has freely given us.
- 1 Corinthians 2:12 NLT*
For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline. - 2 Timothy 1:7 NLT

The Bible makes it clear that the Spirit of God and the spirit of this world are very different. Both are at work to influence us. As Christians we can choose to foster our relationship with God by being led by the Holy Spirit.

In verse 7 Paul reminds Timothy what God has not given us and what He has given us.

When Paul identifies what we receive from the world he uses the Greek word *deilia*, which means timidity, fearfulness, or cowardice, and contrasts it with three of God's gifts; power, love and discipline. What are some of the messages we hear from "the world" that lead us to be timid, fearful or cowardly?

Paul first reminds us that God has given us power. When you think of God's power, it is the power that created the universe and holds all things together. God's power has no bounds and is greater than any other power. We sometimes forget that the God who loves us is also the most powerful force in the universe. What are the things that cause you to fear, and