

THEME: God wants more for you than just a lifestyle of leisure.

2 Timothy 1:3-7

3 I thank God, whom I serve with a clear conscience the way my forefathers did, as I constantly remember you in my prayers night and day, 4 longing to see you, even as I recall your tears, so that I may be filled with joy. 5 For I am mindful of the sincere faith within you, which first dwelt in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am sure that *it is* in you as well. 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. 7 For God has not given us a spirit of timidity, but of power and love and discipline.

MAIN POINTS:

- I. Spiritual Leadership is OBSERVANT - (vs. 3-6; various words)
- II. Spiritual Leadership is MULTI-GENERATIONAL - (vs. 5)
- III. Spiritual Leadership is AGGRESSIVE - (vs. 6)
- IV. Spiritual Leadership is POWERED BY GOD - (vs. 7)

SEVEN (7) POINTS OF APPLICATION:

1. Every Paul needs a Timothy and every Timothy needs a Paul. - (Christian discipleship is for everyone!)
2. A Christian stuck on "cruise control" is someone who has settled for mediocrity. - (Are you currently active with your faith or stagnate?)
3. Disciple-makers must be committed to remembering, praying for, and encouraging those they are mentoring to excel even more in both faith and ministry.
4. The faith you obediently and passionately live out today will have significant impact on future generations of believers.
5. From time to time, all of us need to kindle afresh the gift of God in us. - (QUESTION: On a scale of 1 - 10, how are you doing at fulfilling God's will for your life at this time?)

6. There's to be no such thing as a Christian who isn't active in at least one main area of ministry or service to other people.
 7. If you're living in fear then you're probably too focused on "SELF" and you're not tapping into the power, love, and self-control that God has already given you.
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HOMEWORK & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Pray about and ask at least one mature Christian you know to mentor you in the Christian faith.
 2. Pray for someone God would have you mentor, and ask God to bring that person into your life with this very purpose in mind. (Iron sharpens iron)
 3. Discuss why you think it may be difficult for some Christians to get involved in a ministry, and then remain in that ministry for the longterm?
 4. Discuss what it means to "kindle afresh the gift of God which is in you" and give examples of how you could apply this command in your own life and ministry.
 5. Discuss a time when ministry made you fearful, and/or almost shameful. How can God's gifts of power, love, and discipline (self-control) help Christians to live a more obedient lifestyle in the world?
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