

MY HELPER #20
THE HOLY SPIRIT IN YOUR MINISTRY

2Tim. 1³ I thank God, whom I serve with a pure conscience, as *my* forefathers *did*, as without ceasing I remember you in my prayers night and day,⁴ greatly desiring to see you, being mindful of your tears, that I may be filled with joy,⁵ when I call to remembrance the **genuine faith that is in you**, which dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am persuaded is in you also.⁶ Therefore I remind you to **stir up 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 fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.⁸ Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me His prisoner, but share with me in the sufferings for the gospel according to the power of God,⁹ 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 given to us in Christ Jesus before time began, NKJV

Paul is writing a letter to Timothy a son in the faith. As the Holy Spirit inspired Paul's letter to Timothy take note of how the Holy Spirit worked in Timothy's life. Paul is emphasizing the work and need of the Holy Spirit in ministry.

I. THE HOLY SPIRIT "STIRS UP" ...

A. The **genuine faith** deposited in us (salvation). V-5
We cannot allow ourselves to take for granted this marvelous gift of grace given to us by the sacrifice of Jesus. The joy of our salvation must be kept fresh. The Holy Spirit will do this.

B. The **gift of God** in us – v6
This gift was received by the "laying on of hands". It may be one of two gifts.

1. Impartation of anointing, or ministry gift

The anointing must be stirred.

The ministry gift must be stirred.

This occurs only when we minister under the “freshness” of the Holy Spirit.

2. Baptism in the Holy Spirit

The Baptism in the Holy Spirit must be exercised by praying in tongues.

Jude 1²⁰ But you, dear friends, build yourselves up in your most holy faith and pray in the Holy Spirit.

C. A sound mind (NIV “self discipline”)

Any person that is going to be led of the Spirit, involved in ministry, or leadership will be “stirred” in the area of self-discipline. The sound mind is one that the Spirit has control of!

II. THE HOLY SPIRIT STRENGTHENS...

⁸ Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me His prisoner, but **share with me in the sufferings** for the gospel **according to the power of God,**

A. The Holy Spirit strengthens our testimony

B. The Holy Spirit strengthens us to suffer for the gospel.

Acts 1⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” NIV

The word “witnesses” is “martus” in the Greek and means a witness or martyr. The apostles would all give their lives for sake of the gospel.

What greater show of strength is there than to give your live for Jesus?

III. THE HOLY SPIRIT SENDS

A. Timothy apparently had prophecies spoken over him concerning **a call to ministry**.

1Tim. 1 ¹⁸ Timothy, my son, I give you this instruction **in keeping with the prophecies once made about you**, so that by following them you may fight the good fight,

1Tim. 4 ¹⁴ Do not neglect the spiritual gift you received through the prophecy spoken over you when the elders of the church laid their hands on you.

B. He was **called to pastor**

⁶ If you **explain these things** to the brothers and sisters, Timothy, you will be a worthy servant of Christ Jesus, one who is nourished by the message of faith and the good teaching you have followed.

⁷ Do not waste time arguing over godless ideas and old wives' tales. Instead, train yourself to be godly.

¹⁰ This is why we work hard and continue to struggle, for our hope is in the living God, who is the Savior of all people and particularly of all believers.

1. Called to teach

4 ¹¹ **Teach these things and insist that everyone learn them.**

¹² Don't let anyone think less of you because you are young. Be an example to all believers in what you say, in the way you live, in your love, your faith, and your purity. ¹³ Until I get there, **focus on reading the Scriptures to the church, encouraging the believers, and teaching them.**

¹⁴ Do not neglect the spiritual gift you received through the prophecy spoken over you when the elders of the church laid their hands on you.

2. Called to preach

2Tim. 4 ² Preach the word of God. Be prepared, whether the time is favorable or not.

¹⁵ Give your complete attention to these matters. **Throw yourself into your tasks so that everyone will see your progress.** ¹⁶ Keep a close watch on how you live and on your teaching. Stay true to what is right for the sake of your own salvation and the salvation of those who hear you. *New Living Translation*