NETCAST SERMON NOTES

Series: Poured Out
Date: October 25th, 2026
Title: Brave and Unashamed
Speaker: Matt Chewning

Key Scripture: 2 Timothy 1:5-8 (with 1 Corinthians 1:18, Romans 1:16, Mark 8:38, Hebrews 2:11)

The Big Idea: In a world that uses fear to make us shrink back, the Holy Spirit gives us power, love, and self-control so we can live bravely. We are called to stand unashamed of the message of the cross and willingly embrace the cost of following Jesus.

You Do Not Have a Spirit of Fear
In 2 Timothy, Paul writes from death row under Emperor Nero to encourage young Timothy, who is pastoring in a hostile Ephesus. The "spirit of fear" Paul warns against does not mean a passing feeling of fear, but cowardice—running away from the fight.

• Who Is With You: Courage does not come from digging deeper into your own personality, but from recognizing the Holy Spirit dwelling inside you. When you know who is with you, you stop identifying as afraid and start walking in boldness.
• Countering Culture: Our culture and algorithms profit off keeping us terrified and passive. Instead of raising the next generation to prioritize safety above all else, we must train them to be strong, brave, and courageous in the Lord.

Don't Be Ashamed of the Message That Saved You
The gospel story—a virgin birth, miracles, a sinless life, crucifixion, and resurrection—sounds like foolishness to the world (1 Corinthians 1:18). Yet, it is the very power of God for salvation.

• Jesus Is Not Ashamed of You: According to Hebrews 2:11, Jesus is not ashamed to call us His brothers and sisters despite our flaws. We have no reason to be embarrassed by Him when He willingly identifies with us.
• Unashamed Witness: We often hide our faith out of fear of looking strange or awkward. True boldness means praying, speaking up, and living out the truth of Jesus without apologizing for the message that saved our lives.

You Cannot Follow a Crucified Lord and Demand a Comfortable Life
Paul commands Timothy to "share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God." Following Jesus was never promised to be comfortable, convenient, or culturally popular.

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• Pursuing Jesus Over Comfort: The goal of the Christian walk is not avoiding pain, but pursuing Jesus even when obedience carries a real cost—affecting our finances, career moves, dating life, and schedule.
• Everyone Suffers for Something: Athletes, entrepreneurs, and parents willingly sacrifice sleep, money, and comfort for what they value. The question is not whether you are willing to suffer, but whether you believe the gospel is worth suffering for.

Call to Action / Reflection Question: Where have you been choosing comfort over obedience, and what is one bold step of faith you need to take this week to show you are not ashamed of Jesus?