

Building Your Spiritual Memorial 2 Timothy 1:3-8

On May 5, 1868, a group of former Union soldiers declared that they wanted to set aside a day to celebrate the fallen soldiers by decorating their graves...

The day was set for May 30, 1868... 153 years ago

The observation was somewhat limited until after WW 1, when it was declared that “Decoration Day”, as it had become to be known, would be celebrated for all fallen American soldiers...

Following WW2 it picked up an even greater acceptance...

In 1967 Congress voted that the day would become an official holiday and named it, “MEMORIAL DAY”.

Of course, it’s purpose is for our nation to celebrate those who have given the ultimate sacrifice for our nation’s freedom...

Today, as we celebrate this Memorial Weekend with friends and family, I wanted to help you recognize and develop another Memorial...

A Spiritual Memorial...

ONE THING

Your Spiritual Memorial includes the people used by the Lord to INSPIRE your personal FAITH and IGNITE your spiritual FIRE.

This was the great apostle’s final letter before he was executed by beheading...

The future of Christianity was passing forward from that first generation of Apostles into the hands of their followers...

Paul believed that the Lord had chosen his protégé Timothy to be his successor...

In this beginning of his letter, Paul reminds Timothy of his rich spiritual heritage...

2 Timothy 1:3–8 (ESV) — I thank God whom I serve, as did my ancestors, with a clear conscience, as I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. As I remember your tears, I long to see you, that I may be filled with joy. I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, dwells in you as well. 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, for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control. Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God

In this passage, Paul exposes FOUR CHARACTERISTICS to help us recognize and memorialize our Spiritual Memorial...

1. Those who MOLDED your faith!

2 Timothy 1:5 (ESV) — I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, dwells in you as well.

These would be the people who helped shape or form your faith...

- **Those who have helped SHAPE and FORM your faith.**

Their lifestyle inspired you...

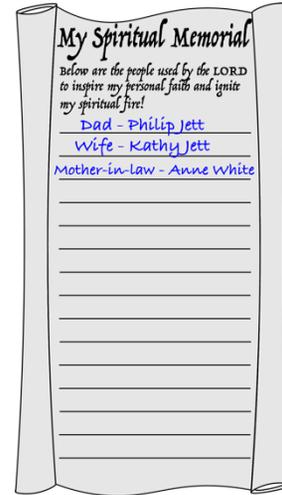
These are typically people close to you... (parents, teachers, coaches, etc.)

These are typically people who influenced you early in life...

Acts 16:1 (ESV) — Paul came also to Derbe and to Lystra. A disciple was there, named Timothy, the son of a Jewish woman who was a believer, but his father was a Greek.

2 Timothy 3:14–15 (ESV) — But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

➔ **Pic 1**



You Spiritual Memorial includes the people used by the Lord to inspire your personal faith and ignite your spiritual fire.

1. Those who MOLDED your faith!

2. Those who MENTORED your faith!

2 Timothy 1:3–4 (ESV) — I thank God whom I serve, as did my ancestors, with a clear conscience, as I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. As I remember your tears, I long to see you, that I may be filled with joy.

2 Timothy 1:6 (ESV) — 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 ...

What is the difference between those who MOLDED our faith and those who MENTORED our faith?

Faith Molders – Those who have helped shape and form your faith.

➤ **Those who have helped TRAIN and STRETCH your faith.**

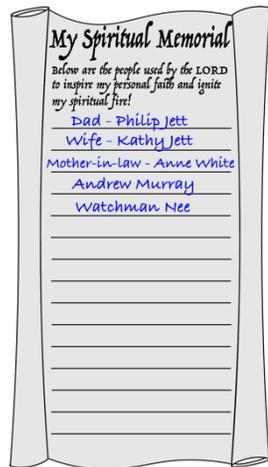
1 Timothy 1:2 (ESV) — To Timothy, my true child in the faith ...

Paul was Timothy’s spiritual father!

2 Timothy 1:2 (ESV) — To Timothy, my beloved child ...

2 Timothy 2:1 (ESV) — You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus,

→ **Pic 2**



You Spiritual Memorial includes the people used by the Lord to inspire your personal faith and ignite your spiritual fire.

1. Those who MOLDED your faith!

2. Those who MENTORED your faith!

3. Those who MOTIVATED your faith!

2 Timothy 1:6–8 (ESV) — 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, for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control. Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God,

“...fan into flame the gift of God...”

ἀναζωπυρέω – anazopurew
 ‘to rekindle a fire,’ not occurring in the NT) to cause something to begin again—‘to reactivate, to cause to begin to be active again.’

“fan into flame the gift of God” means to reactivate the work of the Holy Spirit through the fruit and gifts of the Spirit!

“... not a spirit of fear...”

Δειλία – deilia

Φοβέομαι - Phobeomai

The typical word used in Scripture for being afraid is where we derive our word, “phobia”...

But that is not the word used here!

A state of fear because of a lack of courage or moral strength—‘cowardice, timidity.’

- **The EMOTION of being AFRAID is HUMAN, but the SPIRIT of FEAR is DEMONIC!**

1 Timothy 4:12 (ESV) — Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity.

“...power and love and self-control...”

The word, “Power”, refers to the power of the Holy Spirit released through the gifts of the Spirit!

1 Peter 4:10–11 (ESV) — As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God’s varied grace: whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Paul refers to Gifts of the Holy Spirit in

Romans 12:6-8

Ephesians 4:11

1 Corinthians 12:4-11

There are the Inflators of your faith and the Deflators of your faith...

- **The Inflators build your faith...**
- **The Deflators tear down your faith...**

Ephesians 4:29 (NLT) — Don’t use foul or abusive language. Let everything you say be good and helpful, so that your words will be an encouragement to those who hear them.

→ **Pic 3**



You Spiritual Memorial includes the people used by the Lord to inspire your personal faith and ignite your spiritual fire.

1. Those who MOLDED your faith!

2. Those who MENTORED your faith!

3. Those who MOTIVATED your faith!

4. Those who MEMORIALIZE your faith!

2 Timothy 1:6–7 (ESV) — 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, for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.

Paul was encouraging Timothy...

- **Just as your Grandmother, Lois poured into you...**
- **Just as your Mother, Eunice poured into you...**
- **Just as I have poured into you...**

... pour into the lives of others!!!

Whose Spiritual Memorial list will you be on?

2 Timothy 2:2 (ESV) — And what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also.

There are some of you who use to work in VBS...

- **“I’m going to ‘retire’...”**

There are some of you who use to work in Preschool...

- **“I’m going to let the younger ones have their chance...”**

There are some of you who use to volunteer as Lifegroup leaders, Greeters, Ushers, Choir members, ... etc...

➤ **Don’t STOP or STEP ASIDE until Jesus calls you HOME!!!**

Fan into flame the Gift of God!!!

Release to POWER OF THE GIFTS & FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT!!!

