



Building the Ships: Stewardship
5-Day Devotional | "Use What You Got!"
Sermon Scripture: 2 Timothy 1:1-7 (NIV)

Stewardship Statement: "I will not offer to God that which costs me nothing."

Sermon in a Sentence:

1. Serving is hard.
2. Serving is hard all the time.
3. I had better get alright with #1 & #2.

Day 1 – The Gift Is on Loan

Scripture Focus: 2 Timothy 1:6 (KJV)

"Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee..."

Devotional Thought:

Lifestyle Stewardship teaches us that our gifts and talents are loaned, not owned. God entrusts us with the ability for spiritual edification, not personal elevation alone. What we refuse to use, we risk losing—not because God is unfaithful, but because unused gifts grow dormant.

Paul understood this truth as he wrote to Timothy. Timothy's gifting was real, affirmed, and imparted—but it still required action. A gift unused is a fire untended. God gives the spark, but we must tend the flame.

Reflection Question:

Am I stewarding my gift for God's glory or merely my own advancement?

Prayer:

Lord, thank You for entrusting me with gifts meant to serve Your Kingdom. Help me honor You by using what You've placed in my hands. Amen.

Action Step:

Write down one gift you know God has given you—and one place you've been hesitant to use it.

Day 2 – Recognize What's Already in You

Scripture Focus: 2 Timothy 1:5-6 (NIV)

"I am reminded of your sincere faith... therefore I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God..."

Devotional Thought:

Paul didn't tell Timothy to find a gift—he told him to recognize the one already in him. Timothy's faith had roots. His gift had history. His calling had confirmation.

Recognition is the first step to stewardship. You cannot stir what you refuse to acknowledge. Many believers underestimate their gifting because familiarity breeds neglect. But God's deposits in your life are intentional and purposeful.

Reflection Question:

Have I minimized or overlooked the gift God placed in me?



Prayer: God, open my eyes to what You've already placed within me. Help me see myself the way You see me. Amen.

Action Step: Ask a trusted mentor or peer to affirm where they see God's gifting operating in your life.

Day 3 – Grow the Gift You've Been Given

Scripture Focus: 2 Timothy 1:6 (NIV)

"...fan into flame the gift of God..."

Devotional Thought:

Paul's language paints a picture of a campfire—it must be rekindled daily. Gifts are not static or automatic. They grow with intentional practice, discipline, and surrender.

God lights the fire, but we maintain it. Growth requires effort. Serving is hard. Serving is hard all the time. Stewardship demands that we stretch beyond comfort and refuse complacency.

If we don't grow our gifts, the flame dims—not from lack of calling, but from lack of cultivation.

Reflection Question:

What discipline or habit do I need to develop to grow my gift?

Prayer:

Lord, stir in me a holy dissatisfaction with staying where I am. Teach me to grow what You've given me. Amen.

Action Step:

Commit to one concrete step this week that strengthens your gift (training, study, service, mentoring).

Day 4 – Don't Let Fear Put Out the Fire

Scripture Focus: 2 Timothy 1:7 (KJV)

"For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind."

Devotional Thought:

Fear is one of the Enemy's favorite tools—it drains strength, poisons atmosphere, and neutralizes effectiveness. Timothy faced intimidation because of his age, opposition, and association with Paul. Sound familiar?

Fear says you're inadequate.

Faith says God is sufficient.

You don't have to feel it to faith it. When fear shows up, faith must speak. God didn't give you fear—He gave you power, love, and discipline. Use the gift anyway.

Reflection Question:

What fear has been keeping me from fully using my gift?

Prayer:

 Building the Ships  Life is better with God  Bigger. Brighter. Better.



God, replace my fear with faith. I choose to move forward in power, love, and a sound mind. Amen.

Action Step:

Do one thing today that fear has been telling you not to do—but faith is calling you toward.

Day 5 – Stewardship Is Relational

Scripture Focus: 2 Timothy 1:1-2

“...To Timothy, my dearly beloved son...”

Devotional Thought:

Every believer needs three relationships to steward their gift well:

Paul – a mentor who’s been where you’re going

Barnabas – an encourager who walks alongside you

Timothy – someone you’re discipling and pouring into

Gifts grow best in community. Paul didn’t want Timothy to lose enthusiasm, so he reminded him that gifts flourish when shared, sharpened, and passed on. Stewardship is never selfish—it’s generational.

Reflection Question:

Do I have the right voices speaking into—and flowing out of—my life?

Prayer:

Lord, connect me to the relationships that will help me steward my gift faithfully and fully. Amen.

Action Step:

Identify one Paul, one Barnabas, and one Timothy in your life—or begin praying for God to send them.

Final Declaration

Use it... or lose it.

I will stir up the gift.

I will grow the gift.

I will use the gift—for God, His Church, and His Kingdom.