

MADE TO MAKE A HAND OFF

One generation shall commend your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts.

Psalm 145:4 (ESV)

Four Questions to Ask About the Handoff:

1. Why is the hand off important?

- Because the time is SHORT, and eternity is FOREVER.
- Because the time is CRITICAL.

2. Who handed it off to me?

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. ⁴As I remember your tears, I long to see you, that I may be filled with joy. ⁵I 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. ⁶For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands, ⁷for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.

2 Timothy 1:3-7 (ESV)

3. What am I handing off?

- The baton of PRAYER.

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.

2 Timothy 1:3 (ESV)

- The baton of FAITH.

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. ⁶For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands...

2 Timothy 1:5-6 (ESV)

You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, ²and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also.

2 Timothy 2:1-2 (ESV)

- The baton of loving, self-controlled EMPOWERMENT.

... for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.

2 Timothy 1:7 (ESV)

- The baton of ENDURANCE.
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.
2 Timothy 1:8 (ESV)

Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus.
2 Timothy 2:3 (ESV)

Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted...
2 Timothy 3:12 (ESV)

- The baton of SCRIPTURE.
Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth.
2 Timothy 2:15 (ESV)

But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it ¹⁵ 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. ¹⁶ All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷ that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.
2 Timothy 3:14-17 (ESV)

4. What happens when we MISS the HANDOFF?
- For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, ³heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good, ⁴treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, ⁵having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power.*
2 Timothy 3:2-5 (ESV)

What baton is in your hand? And who are you giving it to?