

STIRRING UP THE GIFT OF GOD IN ME

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Sunday Message [October 7, 2026]

Sermon Summary: Drawing from Paul's exhortation to Timothy in 2 Timothy 1:5-7, this week's message calls the body of Christ to actively stir up the spiritual gifts God has placed within each believer. Pastor Jerry identifies a current spiritual season marked by renewal, restoration, and refreshing, declaring that God is doing a fresh and unparalleled work in the church right now. Rather than living in the past or settling for religious routine, believers are urged to pursue a genuine relationship with God, remain obedient to the Holy Spirit, and prepare for God's "suddenlies" -- unscripted, sovereign moves of the Spirit. The message emphasizes that gifts do not stir themselves; each believer carries a personal responsibility to rekindle what God has deposited within them, because a dormant gift withholds life-giving ministry from a world in desperate need.

Scripture Reference:

- 2 Timothy 1:5-7 -- Paul reminds Timothy of the sincere faith passed down through his family and urges him not to let fear dominate, but to stir up the gift within him, because God has given a spirit of power, love, and a sound mind
- Isaiah 43:19 -- God declares that He is doing a new thing, making a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert, calling His people to look forward rather than remain fixed on the past
- Isaiah 54:17 -- A declaration that no weapon formed against God's people shall succeed, affirming His role as protector and deliverer
- Acts 3:19 -- Referenced in connection with spiritual refreshing that comes from the presence of the Lord
- Ephesians 5:19 -- Speaking to one another in psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, used to affirm the validity of spontaneous Spirit-led worship
- Acts 8:7 -- While Philip preached, unclean spirits were cast out and the lame were healed, illustrating how a sudden can break out in the middle of ministry
- 2 Samuel 6:14 -- David danced with all his might before the Lord as the ark approached, a picture of responding to a suddenly with wholehearted worship
- Ezekiel 37 -- The valley of dry bones, used to illustrate how prophetic obedience releases God's supernatural power to revive what appears dead and hopeless
- 1 Timothy 4:14 -- Paul's warning not to neglect the spiritual gift received through prophecy and the laying on of hands

MESSAGE SLIDES

SPIRITUAL RENEWAL IS WHERE THERE IS A RESTORING OF
INNER-VITALITY, PURPOSE, & CONNECTION TO GOD.

SPIRITUAL RESORATION IS AN INNER-HEALING OF HURTS, REGRETS, MISTAKES, & FAILURES.
IT IS THE REPAIRING OF EMOTIONAL WOUNDS, REGAINING YOUR ENERGY, YOUR HOPE,
& YOUR JOY.

SPIRITUAL REFRESHING ONLY COMES FROM THE PRESENCE, APPEARANCE, &
COURTESY OF THE LORD.

“DEEP SOUL REVIVAL” IS AN INNER-RENEWAL THAT RESTORES YOUR CORE ENERGY, YOUR PEACE,
& YOUR PURPOSE; FAR BEYOND WHAT PHYSICAL REST CAN ACHIEVE.

OUR GOD IS MUCH MORE THAN A GOD OF DUPLICATION.
HE IS A GOD OF AUTHENTICATION.

MORE THAN TRYING HARD TO LIVE BETTER,
WE MUST DRAW CLOSER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT.

Key Points:

- The body of Christ is in a season of spiritual renewal, restoration, and refreshing, each addressing different dimensions of inner weariness, hurt, and disconnection from God
- God is doing a "now" thing -- a fresh, unparalleled work suited specifically to the pressures and challenges the church faces in this present moment
- Spiritual gifts must be actively stirred up by the believer; God equips, but the individual must make the decision to rekindle what has been deposited within them
- "Suddenlies" are God's unscripted sovereign releases that come in various forms including spontaneous worship, breakthrough, healing, and deliverance, and they are accessed through obedience and hunger
- Religious control, man-made rules, and living in the past hinder the church from experiencing what God is doing in the present
- A maturing church learns not just to experience the Spirit personally but to lead others into the presence of God as well
- The gifts within believers are not merely personal blessings but are meant to feed, sustain, and bring life to others who would otherwise remain spiritually starved
- One more great outpouring and awakening is coming, and it will come to those who have kept their gifts stirred up and remain ready

QUOTES:

“You cannot get anywhere in the front of you by always looking in the rear view mirror of you.”

“More than trying harder to live better, we must draw closer to the Holy Spirit and stir up what we already possess.”

“Our God is much more than a God of duplication. He's a God of authentication.”

5-Day Bible Reading Plan and Devotional Guide

Stir Up the Gift: A Journey Toward Renewal, Restoration, and Refreshing

Day 1: The Gift Is Already In You

Reading: 2 Timothy 1:5-7

Devotional: Paul did not tell Timothy to go find a gift or earn one. He told him to stir up what was already there. Many believers spend years waiting for God to give them something He has already deposited inside them. The problem is not absence -- it is dormancy. Fear has a way of silencing what God has already placed within you. But fear is not from God. Power is. Love is. A sound mind is. Today, stop waiting for permission to use what God has already given you. The gift is in you. Stir it up.

Reflection: What gift has God placed in you that fear has kept silent?

Practical Application: Write down one spiritual gift you know God has given you and identify one specific way you can put it to use this week.

Day 2: God Is Doing a New Thing Right Now

Reading: Isaiah 43:18-19

Devotional: God told Israel to stop replaying the past and look forward. He was not dismissing what He had done before -- He was declaring that what He was about to do would be just as real, just as powerful, and just as personal. A path through the wilderness and rivers in the desert are not subtle changes. They are dramatic, life-altering interventions. If you have been stuck in yesterday's disappointments, God is speaking directly to you today. He is not a God of duplication alone -- He is a God of fresh creation. What He is doing right now is for right now. Receive it.

Reflection: In what area of your life have you been looking backward instead of forward?

Practical Application: Identify one past failure or disappointment you have been holding onto. Pray specifically, surrendering that memory to God and asking Him to open your eyes to what He is doing now.

Day 3: The Season of Spiritual Refreshing

Reading: Acts 3:19

Devotional: The Greek word for refreshing in this verse carries the image of a cool breeze arriving after exhausting heat, or a stream of water appearing in the middle of deep thirst. That image is not accidental. God understands spiritual fatigue. He knows what it feels like to carry the weight of guilt, regret, burnout, and weariness. A vacation can rest your body, but only God can revive your soul. Deep soul revival goes beyond physical rest. It restores your core energy, your peace, and your purpose. If you have been running on empty, today is not the day to push harder. Today is the day to turn toward the presence of God and receive.

Reflection: Where in your life do you need a deep soul revival rather than just physical rest?

Practical Application: Set aside fifteen minutes today in complete silence before God. No agenda. No requests. Simply be still and allow His presence to refresh what has grown weary in you.

Day 4: The Valley of Dry Bones Can Live Again

Reading: Ezekiel 37:1-10

Devotional: The valley Ezekiel saw was not a place of mild discouragement. It was a field of complete death. Dry bones represent what happens when hope has been deferred so long that even the memory of life seems distant. Yet God did not look at that valley and walk away. He looked at it and asked a question: can these bones live? That question was not a test of the bones. It was an invitation to the prophet. God was asking whether Ezekiel would be willing to speak life into something that looked completely finished. The bones responded to the word spoken in obedience. What in your life needs you to speak life over it today?

Reflection: What situation in your life or the lives of those you love looks like a valley of dry bones?

Practical Application: Find a promise from Scripture that speaks directly to your dry situation. Speak it aloud over your circumstance today. Write it down and return to it every morning this week.

Day 5: Do Not Neglect the Gift

Reading: 1 Timothy 4:14

Devotional: Neglect is rarely dramatic. It does not announce itself. It happens quietly, gradually, through distraction, discouragement, and the slow drift of days. Paul's warning to Timothy was not given because Timothy had abandoned his faith. It was given because neglect is possible even in a person who is saved, called, and genuinely loved by God. Your gift does not disappear when neglected, but it does grow dormant. The world around you -- your family, your community, your city -- needs what God has placed inside you. Not someday. Now. The people who the enemy said would never be reached are waiting for someone willing to stir up what God has already given them and show up.

Reflection: In what ways have you allowed your spiritual gifts to drift into neglect?

Practical Application: Recommit today to one specific act of faithful stewardship over your gift. Tell someone you trust what you are committing to so that they can hold you accountable and pray for you.