

GOD WITH US

His People. His Dwelling Place.

Fan into Flame - Ps Marilyn Read

"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 the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline. So do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner. Rather, join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God." 2 Tim 1:6-7

People on fire for God have a way of changing the world. God has placed a gift inside of you that he wants you to fan into flame. There is a community around us that is desperate to see God's power and love in action. You were born to burn for God. Fanning this flame is a part of stepping into what God has called you to do.

It can be tempting in difficult times to play it safe. There is a lot in our environment that tries to scare or distract us into not fanning our God-given gifts into flame. The gift that is in you is greater than the intimidation around you. Fan it into flame.

How do we 'fan our flame'?

1. Participate in the partnership

There is an invitation to participate in the partnership. Some people believe they are not qualified to participate but His grace qualifies us. Don't disqualify yourself because you see yourself as unworthy, or undeserving. God placed a gift in Timothy, but Timothy had to fan the flame. To God, we are valuable partners, invited to contribute to what He is doing by using our gifts and talents.

2. Push past timidity

Our natural tendency wants to create safety, and so it wants to live a timid life. The calling of God in our lives takes us into unpredictable places. Timidity puts obstacles in our course, and boldness removes them. God has given us miraculous power and strength through His Spirit. We can move forward boldly, knowing that we are born to burn for Him.

3. Prepare to go the distance

"In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted" 2 Tim 3:12

We will suffer when choosing to live a life for God. Our journey with God is a marathon and not a sprint. We can be encouraged knowing Jesus promises to be with us through every trial and persecution. He gives us the strength to go the distance.

Fanning the flame of what God has placed inside us is a decision we make; a decision to give Him everything, and it leads to significant change in and around us.

Reflection:

1. What is a gift God has placed in you that you feel He is calling you to 'fan into flame'?
2. Close your eyes and ask the Holy Spirit: where am I allowing timidity to cause me to shrink back from allowing God to use me. ask Him to fill you with boldness to overcome that obstacle.