

## **Small Group Study Guide**

### **2 Timothy 1:3-14 - Fanning the Flame of Faith**

#### **Opening Prayer & Icebreaker**

**Icebreaker Question:** Share about a time when you had to start a fire in difficult conditions (camping, power outage, etc.). What made it challenging?

#### **Scripture Reading**

**Read Together:** 2 Timothy 1:3-14

#### **Key Themes**

##### **1. The Power of Spiritual Relationships**

- Paul's deep connection with Timothy
- The influence of Timothy's mother (Eunice) and grandmother (Lois)
- The closeness developed through working together for the gospel

##### **2. Fanning the Flame**

- The spark of faith given by God
- Our responsibility to keep the flame growing
- The role of suffering in strengthening our faith

##### **3. Guarding the Good Deposit**

- Maintaining sound teaching
- Passing faith to the next generation
- The Holy Spirit's help in this process

#### **Discussion Questions**

##### **Section 1: Spiritual Influences (verses 3-5)**

1. **Who planted the seed of the gospel in your life?** Share about the person(s) who first introduced you to Christ or significantly impacted your spiritual journey.
2. **How did working alongside other believers strengthen your faith?** Think beyond just "hanging out" to times of serving, suffering, or laboring together.

##### **Section 2: Fanning the Flame (verses 6-10)**

1. **What does it mean to "fan into flame" the gift of God?** What are practical ways we do this in our daily lives?
2. **How can suffering actually fuel our faith rather than extinguish it?** Share examples from your own life or from Scripture.
3. **Paul says the Spirit gives us "power, love, and self-discipline" rather than timidity. Which of these three do you need most right now?**

##### **Section 3: Guarding the Deposit (verses 11-14)**

1. **What is the "pattern of sound teaching" Paul refers to?** If you had to create a list of essential Christian teachings for a new believer, what would you include?
2. **Share about a time someone helped you correct a misunderstanding or grow in your biblical knowledge.** How did they approach it?

### **Practical Application**

#### **This Week's Challenge:**

Choose ONE of the following to implement this week:

#### **Option 1: Fan Your Own Flame**

- Identify one "wet blanket" threatening your spiritual fire
- Create a specific plan to address it
- Share your plan with someone who will hold you accountable

#### **Option 2: Fan Someone Else's Flame**

- Reach out to someone you've been mentoring or could mentor
- Schedule time to study Scripture together or discuss their spiritual journey
- Encourage them specifically in their faith

#### **Option 3: Guard the Deposit**

- Review the core teachings of the gospel with someone
- Study a passage together to ensure you're both understanding it correctly
- Commit to passing on one specific truth you've learned to another person

#### **Reflection Questions for Personal Prayer**

- **Am I letting my flame burn brightly, or am I hiding it because of fear or discouragement?**
- **What suffering in my life could God use to strengthen my faith rather than weaken it?**
- **Who needs me to hand them the spark of faith with confidence and conviction?**
- **Am I guarding the truth by actively teaching it to others?**

#### **Memory Verse**

**2 Timothy 1:7** - "For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline."

#### **Closing Prayer Focus**

- Thank God for those who fanned the flame of faith in your life
- Pray for boldness to share the gospel despite difficulties
- Ask the Holy Spirit to help you guard and pass on sound teaching
- Pray for specific people in your group who are facing "environmental conditions" that threaten their faith

