

Rekindle Your Enthusiasm

2 Timothy 1

Church Members in America, Gallop poll

- 45-47% of American are Church Members
- 60-65% of those call themselves Christian
- 12% of those Committed Christians

84% of Southern Baptist Churches in America are either plateaued, in decline, or dying.

—North American Mission Board

I know your deeds, your hard work and your perseverance. I know that you cannot tolerate wicked men, that you have tested those who claim to be apostles but are not, and have found them false. You have persevered and have endured hardships for my name,

and have not grown weary.

Revelation 2:2-3

Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken your first love.

Remember the height from which you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first.

Revelation 2:4-5

having a form of godliness but denying its power. 2 Timothy 3:5

I thank God, whom I serve, as my forefathers did, with a clear conscience, as night and day I constantly remember you in my prayers. Recalling your tears, I long to see you, so that I may be filled with joy. 2 Timothy 1:3-4

I have been reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also.

2 Timothy 1:5

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 God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline. 2 Timothy 1:6-7

“Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. Acts 2:38

Through Our Relationship with the Holy Spirit

- We experience intimacy with God.
- We are invited to spend time with God.
- God’s relational presence through His Spirit is a central theme in Biblical theology.

Four Signs of Spiritual Stagnation

1. A quenched spirit can sometimes be seen in our fallen countenance.

2. A quenched spirit is reflected in a cynical attitude.

I can do everything through him who gives me strength.

Philippians 4:13

3. A quenched spirit is reflected in a reluctance to worship.

And as for you, brothers, never tire of doing what is right. 2

Thessalonians 3:13

4. A quenched spirit develops a fascination with the world.

Jesus replied, "No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God." Luke 9:62

for Demas, because he loved this world, has deserted me and has gone to Thessalonica.

2 Timothy 4:10

Why do some Christians let the Spirit's Fire die out?

1. Some of us neglect our walk with Christ.

*Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to preaching and to teaching. Do not neglect your gift, which was given you through a prophetic message when the body of elders laid their hands on you. **1 Timothy 4:13-14***

*In his pride the wicked does not seek him; in all his thoughts there is no room for God. **Psalms 10:4***

*Do not put out the Spirit's fire; do not treat prophecies with contempt. Test everything. Hold on to the good. Avoid every kind of evil. **1 Thessalonians 5:19-22***

2. Worry, fear, or a lack of trust can over shadow our walk with Christ. *Why do some Christians let the Spirit's Fire die out?*

*Stop drinking only water, and use a little wine because of your stomach and your frequent illnesses. **1 Timothy 5:23***

God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline.

2 Timothy 1:7

3. Materialism could eclipse our walk with Christ.

*People who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction. **1 Timothy 6:9***

For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered

from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

1 Timothy 6:10

But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. 1 Timothy 6:11

4. Over commitment, even in ministry, can leave us dry spiritually. *Why do some Christians let the Spirit's Fire die out?*

Paul's Instructions to Timothy

- Appoint elders
- Watch out for false teachers
- Care for the elderly
- Be devoted
- Be diligent
- Set an example
- Preach
- Teach

Paul's Prescription to Re-ignite your enthusiasm

- 1. Remember your heritage.**
- 2. Trust God's Power, it eliminates fear.**

God will never lead you where His grace cannot sustain you.

- 3. Express our love to others, it changes our attitude.**

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.

1 Corinthians 13:4-5

Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

1 Corinthians 13:6-7

4. Practice Self-Discipline.

Paul's Prescription to Re-ignite your enthusiasm.

Self-Discipline in the Christian's Life

- Regular Worship and fellowship with others
- Daily Bible reading and Prayer
- Meditation and personal time in conversation with God

I know your deeds, your hard work and your perseverance. I know that you cannot tolerate wicked men, that you have tested those who claim to be apostles but are not, and have found them false. You have persevered and have endured hardships for my name, and have not grown weary.

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4. Give a testimony of your faith.

Paul's Prescription to Re-ignite your enthusiasm.

*So do not be ashamed to testify about our Lord, or ashamed of me his prisoner. But join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God, **2 Timothy 1:8***

Two Essentials in the Christian's Life

1. Being fed spiritually
2. Exercise your faith

Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another

above yourselves.

Romans 12:9-10

Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

Romans 12:11-13