

2 Timothy 1:6-7

- **NKJV** Therefore I remind you to **stir up the gift of God** which is in you through the laying on of my hands. For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.
- **ESV** 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 gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.
- **NLT** This is why I remind you to **fan into flames the spiritual gift God gave you** when I laid my hands on you. For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline.
- **NASB** For this reason I remind you to **kindle afresh the gift of God** which is in you through the laying on of my hands. For God has not given us a spirit of timidity, but of power and love and discipline.
- **KJV** Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou **stir up the gift of God**, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands. For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

Introduction

- **Purpose**
 - Spiritual gifts are given for the common good to build up the body of Christ. They are to be practiced and received in **LOVE**.
 - 1 Corinthians 12:7 - For the common good
 - 1 Corinthians 13 - LOVE chapter
 - Ephesians 4:12 - Building up of the body of Christ
- **Spiritual Gifts vs Natural Talents**
 - Received not Inherited (James 1:17 - Every good and perfect gift is from above.)
 - There's a difference between a natural ability and a spiritual gift **it's the power of God**

How to stir up YOUR Gift(s)

- **Be Ready**
 - What EACH PART Supplies - Ephesians 4:16
 - Spectator vs **Participant**
 - **EVERYONE ON THE FIELD** (not in the stands)
- **Be You**
 - Your Gifts
 - Reject being put into a box!
 - **Matt Chandler** - Where your giftedness and passion collide **PAY ATTENTION!**.
 - **Russell Moore** - In the New Testament, we don't find our gift through self-examination and introspection and then find ways to express it. Instead, we love one another, serve one another, help one another, and in so doing we see how God has equipped us to do so.
 - **Billy Graham** - Some people have a warped idea of living the Christian life. Seeing talented, successful Christians, they attempt to imitate them. For them, the grass on the other side of the fence is always greener. But when they discover that their own gifts are different or their contributions are more modest (or even invisible), they collapse in discouragement and overlook genuine opportunities that are open to them. **They have forgotten that they are here to serve Christ, not themselves.**
 - **NOTES:**
 - The same gift shared through different contexts and personality will probably look different.
 - Every gift is **needed** and **special** there are no unimportant gifts.
 - One Gift - JESUS
 - **Brother Yun** - Do not be satisfied with God's calling or His gifts in your life. Be satisfied with Jesus Christ

Himself.

- **Watchman Nee** - God will not give me humility, or patience, or holiness, or love as separate investments of His grace. He has given only one gift to meet our need, His Son Christ Jesus.
- Many Gifts
 - No Complete List - At least 5 partial lists. (Romans 12:6-8, 1 Corinthians 12:8-10, 1 Corinthians 12:28, Ephesians 4:11, 1 Peter 4:11)
 - He gives **GIFTS** (Ephesians 4:8)
 - Paul was said to be an Apostle AND Teacher (1 Timothy 1:11)
- **Be Humble**
 - Just a CHANNEL
 - Hymn - Channels Only
(https://library.timelesstruths.org/music/Channels_Only/)
 - There is GREAT FREEDOM in realizing that we are **ONLY** a channel
 - The greatest hindrance to God using us is that He HAS USED us in the past.
- **Be an Encouragement**
 - Mistakes are OK in a family.
 - Gifts are not as effective alone.
 - Given and received in LOVE.
 - Say THANK YOU!

Conclusion

- Parable of the Talents - **Matthew 25:14-30**
- **Two Great Questions**
 - What did you do with Jesus?
 - What did you do with what I gave you?

Channels Only - Mary E. Maxwell

How I praise Thee, precious Savior,
That Thy love laid hold of me;
Thou hast saved and cleansed and filled me
That I might Thy channel be.

Refrain: Channels only, blessed Master, But with all Thy wondrous
pow'r Flowing through us, Thou canst use us Every day and every hour.

Just a channel full of blessing, To the thirsty hearts around, To tell out Thy
full salvation, All Thy loving message sound.

Emptied that Thou shouldest fill me, A clean vessel in Thy hand; With no
pow'r but as Thou givest Graciously with each command.

Witnessing Thy pow'r to save me, Setting free from self and sin; Thou
who bought me to possess me, In Thy fullness, Lord, come in.

Jesus, fill now with Thy Spirit Hearts that full surrender know, That the
streams of living water From our inner man may flow.