



Unsung Heroes: Week 5 — “Zeal of Timothy”

CONNECT: What’s your favorite source of caffeine? (E.g., coffee, energy drink, tea, etc.)

GROW:

1. **Read Acts 16:1-2** and **2 Timothy 1:1-4**. Young Timothy made quite an impression on the believers in modern-day Turkey as well as on Paul. What were you known for as a teenager or young adult? Was there anyone who took you under their wing during those formative years? If so, what impact did it have on you?
2. **Read 2 Timothy 1:5**. God designed the Church to be multigenerational. The greatest “baton” or “torch” we can pass to the next generation is our faith. Who passed their faith down to you? What was this experience like? How did you initially respond?
3. **Read 2 Timothy 1:6**. First, Paul encourages Timothy’s zeal by advising him to recalibrate his perspective on the spiritual gift God has given him. Our spiritual gift can most likely be found where our ability (God-given talents), affinity (God-given passions), and affirmation (God-given support) align. What is your spiritual gift? How can you leverage this gift for God’s glory?
4. **Read 2 Timothy 1:7**. Next, Paul encourages Timothy’s zeal by instructing him to rely on the Holy Spirit. Fear or pain can keep us from utilizing the gifts God has given us, so we combat this by confidently walking in step with the Spirit. When has fear or pain robbed you of an opportunity to serve God? How did you eventually overcome this?
5. **Read 2 Timothy 1:8**. Finally, Paul encourages Timothy’s zeal by reminding him to not be ashamed of the gospel—even when life gets difficult. We need to be reminded daily of the hope we have in Jesus in order to persevere through life’s storms and trials. How would you summarize the gospel in your own words?

PRAY: Read, pray, and meditate on **2 Timothy 4:7-8**. Ask God to provide the zeal you need to continue fighting the good fight, running the race, and keeping the faith.

NEXT: There never would have been a Timothy without a Paul who was willing to pour into him. Prayerfully consider serving in one of the following areas at Southland or your local church during this season: **1. Children’s Ministry | 2. Student Ministry | 3. School Mentoring**