

6 May 2018: Preached by Preacher Clement Chew

Topic: A Study 2 Timothy: Stir Up Your Gift

Scripture text: 2 Timothy 1:6-7

1. The Bible tells us that God gives every Christian at least one spiritual gift, to be used for His glory and the building up of the saints. During the ordination service of Timothy, the Apostle Paul and the presbytery laid hands on Timothy (1 Tim 4:14) to publicly confirm Timothy's pastoral and administrative gifts. Timothy was to use these gifts to fulfill God's calling for him as a pastor of the church of Ephesus.
2. Having received God's gracious gift of salvation and a clear indication of his calling as a pastor, Timothy was to "stir" up his spiritual gifts constantly. The expression "stir up" refers to constant stirring of a flame so that it does not die out. Timothy had the lifelong responsibility to remain zealous and tireless in his service to magnify Christ's name. Likewise, we must seek God's will in knowing our spiritual gifts and serve God fervently and humbly.
3. One hindrance to stirring up our gifts is the lack of courage, timidity and cowardice. As a young pastor during the Roman Empire, Timothy experienced persecutions and tribulations. However, he was exhorted to remember his calling and wealth of resources in the Lord Jesus Christ. Likewise, we must never fear but trust in God's ability to aid us in our service.
4. We can rely on God's Word and His Holy Spirit to overcome the spirit of fear. Trusting in the Holy Spirit produces 1) the power to live a holy life and to experience God working in and through us, 2) a selfless love for God and God's people and to serve constrained by the love of Christ and 3) a sound mind to live a controlled and orderly life, in every aspect serving God according to His Word.