

Our Fears And God's Power

2 Timothy 1:7



**FEAR AND GOD'S
P O W E R**

What We Fear:

- **Failure**
- **Rejection**
- **Change**
- **Problems**
- **Inability**
- **Sacrifice**
- **Spiritual Warfare**
- **Faith**

Fear Leads To:

- **Worry** – fear of the unknown
- **Isolation** – fear of rejection, fear of getting burned
- **Indecision** – fear of messing up, failure
- **Doubt** – fear of the unknown outcome
- **Suspicion** – fear of what others might do to us
- **Inferiority** – fear of rejection
- **Over-aggression** – fear of losing control

2 Timothy 1:5-8

⁵ I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, dwells in you as well. ⁶ 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, ⁷ for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control. ⁸ Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God,

Why Timothy Struggled With Fear:

❧ **Frequent Illness** (1 Tim 5:23)

❧ **Fear of Rejection** (1 Cor 16:10-11)

❧ **Being Young** (1 Tim 4:12)

❧ **False Teachers** (1 Tim 1:3-7; 4:6-7; 6:3-5; 2 Tim 2:14-19,23)

❧ **Persecution of Believers**



2 Timothy 1:7

For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

I. Contrast The Source Of Our Fears With The Source Of Our Faith

- *For God has not given us a spirit of fear*

Contrast

- **Fear** Is A Perception Originating In The Gut Of Man
- **Faith** Is A Provision From The Spirit Of God

II. Conquer The Power Of Our Fears With The Superiority Of God's Power

- *but of power*

A. Fear Estimates That Something Is More Powerful Than God

- **Proverbs 3:25** “Do not be afraid of sudden terror, Nor of trouble from the wicked when it comes”

Fear Fear or Fear Not

- “Our groundless fears are our chief tormentors.” (Charles Spurgeon, “Our Needless Fears”, June 11, 1874)
- 366 times in the Bible, we read the words “Fear Not”

B. Faith Elevates God's Power Over The Power Of What We Fear

- “power” = *dunamis*

Omnipotence

- Omnipotence is the absolute ability and power for God to accomplish His will.

ALL POWER

- **Psalm 115:3** But our God is in heaven; He does whatever He pleases.
- **Psalm 62:11** Power belongs to God.
- **Job 9:19** If it is a matter of strength, indeed He is strong

Omnipotence Described

- “Almighty God” = *El Shaddai*
- Rules Over All (Rev 19:6)
- Never Tires (Isa 40:28)
- Create Out Of Nothing (Gen 1:1-3)
- Upholds All Things (Heb 1:3)
- Over Good & Evil (Eph 6:10-11)

Power To Save Sinners

- **Romans 1:16** For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.

Power To Resurrect The Dead

- **1 Corinthians 6:14** And God both raised up the Lord and will also raise us up by His power.

III. Cast Out Our Fears By Resting In His Love

• *of love*

Perfected Love	Prevailing Fear
self-sacrifices (1 Jn 3:16; Jn 3:16)	self-protects
is trusting – “believes all things” (1 Cor 13:7)	is suspicious
“thinks no evil” (1 Cor 13:5)	is always concentrated on evil
serves people (1 Jn 3:16-18)	moves away from people
never fails (1 Cor 13:8)	immobilizes and flees

IV. Cultivate Sound Thinking When Our Mind Plays The Fear Game

- *and of a sound mind*

Philippians 4:6-7

- Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will **guard your hearts and minds** through Christ Jesus.

2 Corinthians 10:5

- We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ,

Matthew 10

- Expectation (24-26)
- Vindication (26-27)
- Redirection (28)
- Realization (29-31)

Conclusion:

- Fear is not the sin. Our response to fear is the moral issue: *paralysis* or *faith*.
- Boldness comes when we walk in obedience, not when we hesitate in fear. (Acts 1:8; 4:29)

Conclusion:

- We fear because we're afraid of losing; but look at what the church will lose because we fear.
- Compare the power of what we fear to the Power of God (Ps 73:26; 27:1; Prov 29:25)

Compare: Fear to Faith

- Fear Judgment – God Saves
- Fear Death – God Resurrects
- Fear Fear – Fear God
- Fear Witness For Christ –
Expect Persecution
- Fear Persecution – Know God's
Power Of Resurrection

Discussion:

- Describe what you fear most? Why?
- What fears do you have when it comes to your Christian life or serving God? Why?
- Why do we sometimes attribute more power to what we fear than the power of God?
- How has God's omnipotence been demonstrated in your life and/or ministry?

FBC-BELMONT.ORG/CONNECTGROUPS

JOIN A CONNECT GROUP

30-60 MINUTE SMALL GROUP CONVERSATIONS
ABOUT THE SUNDAY MESSAGE

CONNECT

TO PEOPLE IN
MEANINGFUL COMMUNITY

CONNECT

SUNDAY'S MESSAGE TO
YOUR DAILY LIFE