

**II Timothy 1:1-9**

# COURAGE

*"Courage for the Family"*

**INTRODUCTION:** Paul, the Apostle, wrote to Timothy to challenge him to have courage, without fear, as he served God. Timothy was not raised in a traditional family, but rather, for whatever reason, the primary influence in his life was his mother and grandmother. We see no evidence of a spiritual influence from his father, if his father was even around. Now men who are raised without the influence of a father often deal with more insecurities than others. But those trials and traumas should not be our excuse to not give our best effort to knowing God in our own individual lives from here forward (II Timothy 1:7).

### **HOW TO OVERCOME FAMILY FEAR WITH GODLY COURAGE:**

#### **I. WE MUST GROW IN OUR FAITH (II TIMOTHY 1:5)**

Here we get a glimpse into Timothy's home where he was raised on a strong faith in God's Word. Timothy had an "unfeigned faith" or a sincere, genuine faith.

##### **A. A FAITH THAT IS SCRIPTURE BASED (II TIMOTHY 3:15)**

We get a further glimpse into the faith of Timothy as we see that this faith was cultivated into him by his mother and grandmother teaching him the Bible.

*Romans 10:17, "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."*

Our children need to be in the kinds of homes and in the kind of church where God's Word is strengthening their faith and alleviating their fears; where they are taught from the Scriptures that they have a great God who makes no mistakes, who loves them unconditionally and who has a wonderful plan for their lives.

##### **B. A FAITH THAT CAN REMOVE FEAR (I TIMOTHY 1:7)**

When someone is walking in fear, their soul is in bondage and they are sensing a lack of belonging. According to verse 7 a spirit of fear is not given to us by God.

##### **C. A FAITH THAT CAN EMPOWER THE BELIEVER**

Godly faith produces power in the life of a believer (I Timothy 1:7). Godly faith is an empowering faith because the Spirit of God, who indwells every Christian,

imparts grace to the believer, strength to the believer and wisdom to the believer. Godly faith produces love in the life of a believer (I Timothy 1:7).

*I Corinthians 13:7, (love) "Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things."*

Godly faith produces a sound mind in the life of a believer (I Timothy 1:7).

A sound mind means a clear understanding, a sound judgment, a rectified will with holy passions.

#### **II. WE MUST HONOR OUR FAMILY**

Our homes must be a place where fear is cast out and honor is brought in.

##### **A. WIVES HONOR YOUR HUSBAND (I PETER 3:5-6)**

##### **B. HUSBANDS HONOR YOUR WIFE (I PETER 3:7)**

While wives determine the spirit of the house, the husband brings a sense of security into the home.

*"Elevate dependability and you will eliminate doubts." - unknown*

*Ephesians 5:25-27, <sup>25</sup>Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; <sup>26</sup>That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, <sup>27</sup>That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish."*

#### **III. WE MUST TRUST IN THE PROVIDENCE OF GOD (II TIMOTHY 1:9)**

##### **A. GOD HAS A PURPOSE FOR YOUR LIFE**

*Romans 8:28-29, <sup>28</sup>And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. <sup>29</sup>For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren."*

The word **providence** means "to see before". God saw before you were born that you'd be saved one day. God has a purpose for your life that you would be conformed to the image of His Son. And God knows that in order for that to happen, you're going to need some God-designed trials and tragedies.

*Galatians 5:13, "For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another."*

*I Thessalonians 4:7, "For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness."*

##### **B. GOD'S PURPOSE FOR YOUR LIFE IS CHRIST-LIKENESS (ROMANS 8:29)**

*"Sometimes God calms the storm. Other times He lets the storm rage and calms His child." – Paul Chappell*