**Persisting under Pressure – 2 Tim. 1:6 -7**

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 – NASB

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 & self -discipline – NLT

\*Timothy, Paul’s assistant in ministry struggled with timidness and self - doubt

**The pressure of self – doubt**

1. It might surprise you that many people today live with self – doubt!
2. They have feelings of fear that they are going to fail as parent, spouse, or at work!
3. Many live in the shadows, they are timid & shy hoping that no one will notice them.
4. The timidness of many, keeps them from trusting God & believing his promises
5. These feelings of despair cause broken relationships with people & with God
6. Did you know that self – doubt is a sin? It reveals our reliance on our old nature not on the Lord Jesus Christ

**Hear God’s Word – 2 Tim. 1:6 -7**

1. **Self – doubt is a mark of the old sinful nature within the believer**

God has not given us a spirit of timidity - fear

1. **Self – doubt is centered on fear of man, fear of failure & circumstances**

God has not given us a spirit of timidity – fear

1. **Self – doubt is overcome through salvation in Jesus Christ**

I am reminded of the sincere faith within you…

Kindle afresh the gift of God which is in you – the Holy Spirit now possesses the believer

God has given a spirit of power, love and discipline

1. **Self – doubt is conquered by being filled with the Holy Spirit**

Living in the power of God to overcome our self – doubts & fears

Living in the love of God assuring us that God accepts us in Christ & equips us to live with a purpose to share the gospel

Living in the discipline of God – saying no to the sin of self – doubt

Protect the good thing in you which is from the Holy Spirit who lives in you – 1:14

**Believe God’s Word**

1. Fearfulness robs you of the joyfulness of walking with God
2. Fearfulness is exhausts you emotionally & harms your ability to serve God
3. The Holy Spirit gives us power, love & discipline for life’s circumstances
4. Whatever the situation you are facing the Holy Spirit is with you in it & through it.

**Live God’s Word**

1. Stir up the power of the Holy Spirit by repenting of your sinful fears!
2. Rely on the Holy Spirit’s work in you to give you power for your circumstances, love for God & others, discipline to live in the Spirit
3. Give God your fear & the Holy Spirit will come to your aid!
4. Live in the Spirit and you will not fear!