Grace Evangelical Free Church November 8, 2026

2 Timothy 1:7 Power, love and a sound mind

Power, love, and a sound mind are essential gifts from God, qualities designed to help us overcome challenges, serve others effectively and fulfill God's destiny for each of us.

2 Timothy 1:7: "**for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control**"

- **Grammatical Usage:** "**fear**" or in the Greek, "deilias" meaning, "timidity; cowardice".
- **Literal Interpretation:** God doesn't want us to be shy, but bold and loving and sensible.
- **Contextual/Comparison:** God keeps His Word: God continually uses His Word.

I. THE CHURCH OF CHRIST IS ENDOWED WITH THE SPIRIT OF COURAGE

1. In being a disciple at all courage was demanded. Courage involves acknowledging fear but choosing to act despite it. The Bible teaches that true courage is rooted in faith and trust in God.

2. In proclaiming the gospel of God courage was manifested. Throughout scripture, believers are repeatedly encouraged to be strong and courageous. For example, God commands Joshua to "be strong and courageous" (Joshua 1:9), emphasizing reliance on His presence.

- David faced Goliath, trusting in God's deliverance.
- Esther approached the king to save her people, demonstrating boldness.
- Jesus remained committed to His mission despite opposition.

3. In enduring hardness courageous power was developed by:

	Practice	Description
•	Prayer	Seeking God's strength and guidance in challenging times
•	Scripture	Drawing inspiration from biblical examples and promises
•	Support	Encouraging one another in faith and courage
•	Obedience	Acting on God's commands, even when it is difficult

II. THE CHURCH OF CHRIST IS ENDOWED WITH THE SPIRIT OF POWER

1. The power of holy utterance is a spiritual gift (**1 Corinthians 12:8–10**)

2. The power of righteous resolute volition is a spiritual gift (**1 Cor. 15:58**)

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The Bible provides numerous exhortations to remain resolute. **Hebrews 12:1-2** encourages believers to "**run with endurance the race set out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith.**" This passage underscores the importance of maintaining focus and determination in the Christian life.

III. THE CHURCH OF CHRIST IS ENDOWED WITH THE SPIRIT OF LOVE

1. Love of kindred is a spiritual command

- **Romans 12:10** — "**Love one another with brotherly affection**"
- **1 Peter 1:22** — "**Love one another earnestly from a pure heart**"
- **Hebrews 13:1** — "**Let brotherly love continue**"

2. The love of Christ and of God is an endowment of the Spirit of God "**Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God**" – **1 John 4:7**

IV. THE CHURCH OF CHRIST IS ENDOWED WITH THE SPIRIT OF SOUNDNESS OF MIND/SELF CONTROL

1. The capacity and consequent appetite for knowledge are spiritual endowments
   Knowledge is not merely intellectual; it is deeply spiritual and rooted in our relationship with God. It serves to deepen understanding, enhance discernment, and guide believers in their faith journey. The Bible presents knowledge as a spiritual gift or endowment from God. This gift enables believers to understand and apply divine truths effectively. It is essential for spiritual growth and discernment within the Christian faith.
   - Knowledge is listed as a manifestation of the Spirit - **1 Cor. 12:8**
   - The fear of the Lord as the beginning of knowledge - **Proverbs 1:7**
   - Add knowledge to your faith for spiritual growth - **2 Peter 1:5-6**
2. Scripture commends a sound mind
   The Bible defines a sound mind as disciplined, sober, aligning thoughts with God's truth rather than fear or worldly influences. It emphasizes the importance of being spiritually minded, which leads to peace and clarity in decision-making (**Romans 8:6**).
3. Scripture identifies self-control as a mark of maturity
   Self-control is not merely a personal effort but is rooted in the transformative work of the Holy Spirit. It reflects God's character and is vital for personal holiness, effective witness, and genuine relationships. Self-control is essential for living a life that honors God and is a mark of true discipleship as seen in **2 Peter 1:5-6**.

➢ **Conclusion:** For power, love and a sound mind – have I submitted to Christ's Lordship?

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