

What contributed to Timothy becoming the man that Paul passed baton of leadership to?

- Spiritual heritage
- Spiritual friendship

➤ **Spiritual gifts**

2 Timothy 1:6

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.

“fan into flame” = to kindle, to stir up into a fire

gift = comes from the word *charisma*, divine empowerment to carry out His work

- Do you know what your spiritual gifts are?
- Are you taking what God has entrusted to you and growing/developing it?

➤ **Alignment with the Spirit of God**

2 Timothy 1:7

For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline.

“Paul left Timothy in Ephesus as a kind of embryonic ‘bishop’. Wide responsibilities were given him to combat heretics who were troubling the church there, to order the church’s worship, to select and ordain its elders, to structure the relief ministry of its widows, to command and teach the apostolic faith, together with the moral duties that flow from it.”

– John Stott

“Timid Timothy” = young, weak, shy

1 Timothy 4:12

Don’t let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity.

1 Timothy 5:23

Stop drinking only water, and use a little wine because of your stomach and your frequent illnesses.

1 Corinthians 16:10

If Timothy comes, see to it that he has nothing to fear while he is with you, for he is carrying on the work of the Lord, just as I am.

1 Corinthians 1:26-29

26 Brothers and sisters, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. 27 But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. 28 God chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things—and the things that are not—to nullify the things that are, 29 so that no one may boast before him.



God chooses the *least-likely* to accomplish his purposes because it's *most likely* the attention, focus, and credit will be directed Godward.

- *power* = dunamis = a strength given through God's resources
- *love* = agape = esteem, to will the good of another
- *self-discipline* = sóphronismos = self-control, prudence, sound mind/reasoning

"God's intent for us is that we would become *the kind of persons* that he can empower to do what we want. (Like a parent handing the keys over to a sixteen-year-old son or daughter.) Clearly, this means our 'wanter' needs to change. The more we have the *character of Christ* the safer it is for us to receive God's power." – Dallas Willard