

**What Are You Afraid Of? 8<sup>1</sup>**  
**What God Has Provided to Overcome Fear in Your Life**  
**2 Timothy 1:7**

**The Context:** I thank God whom I serve, as did my ancestors, with a clear conscience, as I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. <sup>4</sup> As I remember your tears, I long to see you, that I may be filled with joy. <sup>5</sup> 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. <sup>6</sup> 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, <sup>7</sup> **for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control. 2 Timothy 1:3–7**

**The background:** When Timothy comes, **see that you put him at ease among you**, for he is doing the work of the Lord, as I am. **1 Corinthians 16:10** *“at ease” = without fear*

Command and teach these things. <sup>12</sup> **Let no one despise you for your youth**, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity. <sup>13</sup> Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching. <sup>14</sup> Do not neglect the gift you have, which was given you by prophecy when the council of elders laid their hands on you. <sup>15</sup> Practice these things, immerse yourself in them, so that all may see your progress. <sup>16</sup> Keep a close watch on yourself and on the teaching. Persist in this, for by so doing you will save both yourself and your hearers. **1 Timothy 4:11–16**

**For God gave us a (S)pirit not of fear** (*timidity, cowardice*)

“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup> And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, <sup>17</sup> even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

“These things I have spoken to you while I am still with you. <sup>26</sup> But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you. **John 14:15–17, 25–26**

**of power** (*The capacity to do mighty deeds beyond mere human capability, cf. John 14:12; Acts 1:8*)

“Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. <sup>13</sup> Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. **John 14:12–13**

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” **Acts 1:8**

**and love** (*The ability to sacrifice yourself for the sake of others*)

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. <sup>35</sup> By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” **John 13:34–35**

**and self-control.** (*The strength to master your own desires in order to serve God and others*)

For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. **Galatians 5:13**

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. **Galatians 5:22–23**

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<sup>1</sup> Message prepared and shared with the congregation of West Salem Baptist Church by Dr. Paul Null, Sunday, September 8, 2019. Scripture citations are from the English Standard Version of the Bible.