

# Do Not Neglect The Gift That Is In You

Sunday AM 10/17/21

## Introduction:

Timothy is described as Paul's son in the faith, **1 Timothy 1.2**. In **1 & 2 Timothy** there are a lot of personal and pointed instructions given to Timothy; words of exhortation and encouragement. **1 Timothy 4:12** *Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity.*

Our text, **1 Timothy 4:14** *Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership.* I want us to see the personal side of this and make application.

## I) Neglect

### A) Do not neglect-

1. Definition- fail to care for properly, the state or fact of being uncared for.
2. Cannot think of a single positive use of the word.

**Joshua 18:2** *But there remained among the children of Israel seven tribes which had not yet received their inheritance. 3 Then Joshua said to the children of Israel: "How long will you neglect to go and possess the land which the LORD God of your fathers has given you?"*

**Colossians 2:23** *These things indeed have an appearance of wisdom in self-imposed religion, false humility, and neglect of the body, but are of no value against the indulgence of the flesh.*

3. A lot of us have seen the results of neglect – house falling down, leaky pipe causing water damage, family issues which arises, etc.

### B) Can see this in the personal realm

1. People, preachers, who neglected their physical health, emotional and mental health.
2. After a number of years see the results, poor physical condition, mental and emotional burn out.

### C) Why do people neglect “things”

1. Do not value whatever it is we are neglecting.
2. Get sidetracked by other things.
3. Misplaced priorities where we intended to do something later on.

***Luke 12:15*** **And He said to them, "Take heed and beware of covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses."**

***Luke 12:20*** **"But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?' 21 "So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God."**

- a. The farmer was not evil, or unjust, or lazy, he was neglectful.
- b. The same can be said for many people.

## II) The Gift

### A) Earlier duties Timothy was reminded of.

1. He was a member of the Lord's army and soldiers have a purpose.

***1 Timothy 1:18*** **This charge I commit to you, son Timothy, according to the prophecies previously made concerning you, that by them you may wage the good warfare,**

- a. A soldier who is not ready for the battle is of little use.
- b. Reminded of two soldiers many years ago who volunteered for the army but refused to go to fight.

2. How Timothy was to conduct himself as a Christian.

***1 Timothy 3:15*** **but if I am delayed, I write so that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.**

3. His duty to teach, preach and instruct the brethren regarding false teachers and doctrines..

***1 Timothy 4:6*** **If you instruct the brethren in these things, you will be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished in the words of faith and of the good doctrine which you have carefully followed.**

- a. To expose error
- b. To nourish his own soul

**B) The gift?**

**1 Timothy 4:14** *Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership.,*

- 1. Given by prophecy, mentioned earlier.

**1 Timothy 1:18** *This charge I commit to you, son Timothy, according to the prophecies previously made concerning you, that by them you may wage the good warfare,*

- 2. Prophet- to speak forth the word of God. Similar to the idea expressed in **Acts 13**.

**Acts 13:2** *As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, "Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them."*

**C) Was the gift miraculous or non-miraculous?**

- 1. They only way to receive the miraculous was by the laying on of the Apostles hands.

**Acts 8:18** *And when Simon saw that through the laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Spirit was given, he offered them money,*

- 2. Our text does not mention the Apostles but the elders or eldership.
- 3. The gift and the laying on of the hands of the eldership were two different things.

**Acts 13:1** *Now in the church that was at Antioch there were certain prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. 2 As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, "Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." 3 Then, having fasted and prayed, and laid hands on them, they sent them away.*

- a. They were already prophets and teachers before the laying on

- of hands.
- b. Laying on of hands involves more of a public display of authority or work.
- 4. Possible gifts
  - a. Salvation, **Romans 6:23** *For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*
  - b. One of the non-miraculous gifts mentioned in **Romans 12**.  
**Romans 12:6** *Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; 7 or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; 8 he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.*
- 5. The gift was connected with Timothy's ministry and necessary for its success.

### III) Application

#### A) Do not neglect your soul

- 1. A lot of people fail to care properly for their soul.
  - a. Focus on material things, education, family, retirement etc.  
**Luke 8:14** *"Now the ones that fell among thorns are those who, when they have heard, go out and are choked with cares, riches, and pleasures of life, and bring no fruit to maturity.*
  - b. Easy to get caught up in other things.
- 2. They don't think about...
  - a. Their soul's value  
**Matthew 16:26** *"For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?"*
  - b. Its importance

***Matthew 10:28*** "And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

- c. Its destiny

***Ecclesiastes 12:7*** Then the dust will return to the earth as it was, And the spirit will return to God who gave it.

## **B) The word of God**

1. Give attention to reading, ***1 Timothy 4.13***.
2. Dusty Bibles leads to dirty lives.
  - a. To make wise decisions
  - b. To give us spiritual insight, nourishment.

## **C) Our abilities in the Lord's body, the church**

1. What is my ministry? What can I do?

***Romans 12:6*** Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; ***7*** or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; ***8*** he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.

2. Remember the parable of the talents. God gives us "talents" for a purpose. He wants to see an increase and not just keeping what we have.

***Matthew 25:28*** NKJV ***28*** 'Therefore take the talent from him, and give it to him who has ten talents.

## **Conclusion:**

**Let us be diligent in using our talents in service to the Lord.**