

Greenville Baptist Church

Newsletter



Advent

The Season of Hope and Expectation



When you are here
You are home

December 7, 2021

Even though there are so many times that the word “power” is used in the Bible; this will be the last in the chain of looking at the word which means “explosive power or mighty strength.” As you will recall, the word in the original is “dunamos” from which we get the word dynamite. Strong power. In those days, families often did not name their children until they could see what they would be like, and then use a name that described the very person. I wonder what our names would be if we were named later in life according to our character and description. Paul, in his commendation of Timothy, uses some terms that are very interesting in the meanings of words and how they are used. 2 Timothy 1: 5 - 7 says, I have been reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and, I am persuaded, now live in you also. 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. For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline.” In the book of Acts we find Paul going on several journeys through out the known world spreading the Gospel of Jesus and then going back again to encourage those who had become followers of Christ. In one of those trips through what we know now as Turkey or Asia Minor, he met Timothy and encouraged him to travel with him and be a part of this important ministry of both planting churches and encouraging believers of Jesus. Timothy traveled with Paul for a while, then Paul sent him to the city of Ephesus to lead and pastor the flock that was there. In our text in 2 Timothy, Paul uses a play on words to illustrate what he is saying to Timothy. Paul tells Timothy to not be timid. In the original languages, that word is the root word of the word for “Timothy.” Paul wants

Timothy to “not” live up to his name. Paul was encouraging Timothy to be bold in his life and testimony. In the context of the verses, Timothy had the “gift” of pastor-teaching, and was to not feel intimidated by others in his use of the knowledge that he had gained by learning from Paul. Rather, Paul encouraged Timothy to be “Powerful.” We have already looked at the truth that the Spirit of God lives within us and has given us the power to live godly lives. That includes being a devoted follower of Christ and “growing in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.” Then, after discovering the spiritual gifts that you have been blessed with to use them to the fullest extent, realizing that they are given by God and are to be used in all of life. Paul reminds Timothy that God has given us a “spirit of power.” Bold. Forceful. Explosive. Powerful. Dynamite. But we must be careful in how we use it and to be sure that we use the same parameters that Paul told to Timothy. Paul includes the truth of using love and self-discipline in Timothy’s use of the power that was his. There is not a non-controlled use of the word power. Rather it is used in the context of having it bathed in love and self-control. Love, the kind of love that the Bible talks about in 1 Corinthians 13 tells us how to use the power. Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices in the truth.” Our boldness in the Gospel and in the Word of God is not just “out there” to be used both indiscriminate nor with a lack of humility. Our boldness is in knowing the truth of God and being able to use it in everyday language in our interaction with others. We are encouraged to pray and read God’s Word. Understand that Word and make it’s application in our lives so that we are familiar and able to use it in our relationships while here on earth. We are to be bold in our presentation and our use of the Holy Scriptures but to use it always in love. Then Paul uses the words “self-control.” When this language is used by Paul, he is always referring to our bodies, our mouths and even our body language is always in control. He calls it self-control, but what he is referring to is being in control. Paul says in Ephesians to “don’t be drunk with wine, but be controlled by the Spirit of God.” Our ability to control our own selves is the allow the Spirit of God to control us, and our submission to that control. God wants to use us in His work here on earth. He desires to use our natural and spiritual gifts and talents in the work that He is performing here. That means we must be “in-tune” with the Spirit. We must look to Him for our help. For our decisions. For our relationships. For our actions. For our words. For everything. Paul talks to Timothy in regards to not being shy in his performance of the duties and actions that are given to him, rather to use what God has given to him for the work. That should be us. Reading, praying, understanding and being led by Him. Jack and Karen

Upcoming Events

Bible Study

We will continue our study of Timothy the Wednesday December 1st.

Christmas Brunch

We will meet at 9:30am on Sunday December 12 for brunch. We will not be cooking in the kitchen so please bring you dish hot to share.

Greenvine's Girl's of Grace

On Tuesday Dec 14th The Women will be meeting at Sandra Pulliam's to make bags to take to our shut-ins . You can help by bringing items for the bags such as:

Toothpaste and brushes, combs, puzzle books, fuzzy socks, hard candies, snack crackers, etc.

Toy Drive

Burton Bridge is collecting gently used blankets and comforters, new unwrapped toys and condiments for the advent bundles. Please drop off donations at the church by December 13th

Christmas Eve Service

Candlelight service – 6pm on Christmas Eve

Prayer Requests

Jack and Karen's Nephew – He is on meds and doing better

Karen – Praise that her wrist is doing better and that she continues to heal. She has started physical therapy.

Brayden Lopez - Mental and Spiritual health

Please remember the Chapdelaine family in the loss of Robert. Pray for Stacy (Rob's Wife) as she is struggling with this loss.

Please remember Debbie Reed and her family in the loss of her Aunt.

Please keep Becky and the Medellin family in your prayers for the loss of Juan

Please remember Brittany's family in the loss of Tracy. Please lift up Patty as she supports this family

Ricky Eckert recovering from a leg amputation.

Neal Lampe has come home. Please pray for continued healing

Please remember Linda Fogle and her family in the loss of Rick

Carolyn Cox -Pray for continued healing

Gerri Smart's daughter has had her last chemo treatment. Pray for continued healing

Denny's Sister is in need of a Kidney Transplant

Becky's granddaughter Taylor who has Cystic Fibrosis and is having health issues

Oran Lambright, Jack and Karen's friend has come home and is recovering

Ray and Bev Morris - Bev and been diagnosed with Alzheimers

Sandra Carson's daughter Candace is having some mental health issues

Bob & Sadie Easley - Health issues - Please remember Bob's family in the loss of his brother

Ed Ehring's sister Julie Robison is suffering from Alzheimer's.

Lee Ehring's brother, Bill Hoot, is having health issues. Doctors have found a mass on his lungs but the biopsy results have not been received yet. He has lost his vision and is unable to talk. Please pray that the Doctors can find out what is happening and how to treat him. He is in a tremendous amount of pain

Vicky Hoffman - legally blind but her eyes are getting worse