

God Makes Us Bold

2 Timothy 1:7

Do you know someone who really intimidates you? It might be a supervisor, an instructor, or even just a neighbor. Many times, this individual has no intention of causing such a feeling. Yet the very thought of even talking to him or her leaves you feeling nervous or hesitant.

Likewise, we all face situations that intimidate us. This can be especially true when it comes to having a conversation with someone about God. Yet such a fear is unhealthy, as Paul explained to a young pastor he was mentoring named Timothy:

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

God has called each of us to be open and transparent about our faith. He wants us to express to others the joy He's placed within our hearts. However, for some of us, this does present a challenge. The fears of uncertainty and self-doubt begin to well up inside us. That's when we must bring to mind what God has placed inside our hearts: power, love, and a uniquely eternal perspective.

Whether we're presenting the gospel to a friend or simply interacting with coworkers on break, being open about our faith can be a source of fear. Counteract those emotions with a focus on what God has done for you. When you let His love show through your words as well as your actions, rather than focusing on your own limitations, you'll become a bold reflection of His life-changing power. And that's something no one needs to fear.

Why do you think so many people struggle with fear when it comes to putting their faith in display in words as well as actions?

In what ways is the power and love of Christ visible in your life? How can you overcome timidity when you have opportunity to put that power and love on display?