

1. **What issues and situations in your life do you find pressure to “get with the times, get on the right side of history, progress with the culture, etc.?”**
 - How do these situations make you feel and how do you typically respond?
2. **Paul says in 2 Timothy 1:7 that we do not have a “spirit of fear.” What are the biggest fears you have as you look at the rapidly changing culture around us?**
 - In which one of the three characteristics of the Spirit from 2 Timothy 1:7 do you need to grow?
 - How do you see fear in your life fighting against these characteristics?
3. **To be “ashamed” is to view one’s life as a failure. Paul wanted Timothy to refuse to see his life as a failure because of negative circumstances.**
 - What measures of success are you tempted to use in your life that would lead you to believe your life has been wasted because of your commitment to following Christ?
 - How does Paul’s eternal perspective in 2 Tim 1:12 encourage you to invest your life now?
4. **Paul calls us to share in suffering for the gospel. What are some positive effects that suffering for Christ can have on you and the church?**
5. **Everything we are called to do in the midst of a dark culture (fan the flame of the gift of God, not be ashamed, and suffer) is based upon the divine power of Christ.**
 - In what ways does your life “say” you don’t really believe in the power of God like you say you do?
 - Read 2 Tim 1:8c-10. Which result of Christ’s power do you need to meditate on this week?
 - How does this laundry list of Christ’s power strengthen your heart to walk as one who is not ashamed and willing to suffer?
6. **How have your affections for the person and work of Christ increased through this passage of Scripture?**