***"Fruits of Faith"***

**2 Tim. 1 - 5/19/19**

*What are some of the evidences/fruits of a believer's faith?*

**2 Timothy 1:3-7**

1) Believers Forge Relationships, They Further Their Faith, & They Offer Spiritual Service

In verse 4, we see the power of love, relationship, unity and like-mindedness/purpose - which builds a spiritual bond that is *powerful*... And it comes through forging relationships.

The concept of forging generally has to do with shaping a metal object by heating it in a fire or furnace - and through beating or hammering it!

**\*Vs. 5**

There's something to be said when a faith legacy is handed down from generation to generation.

What kind of legacy will we leave?... Will it be lasting/eternal? Or will we only leave behind tangible items?

**\*Vs.6**

What is the gift(s) that God has given you?... And how are you using them?

*"kindle afresh*" - 'fan the flame, stir-up the fire'! **Ephesians 5:15-17**

When we're timid or fearful about using our gifts and serving the Lord, or we feel frazzled or overwhelmed - remember **verse 7**.

When we're afraid to witness, or we lack love for the Lord, one another or our neighbor, or if we're frazzled or overwhelmed due to serving or even change, let's remember what the Lord has given us according to **verse 7**.

*"How much do you have to hate somebody to not tell them?... If you really believe this!" ­* - Penn Jillete (Atheist)

*"Sharing the gospel is the most loving thing you can do"*.

**2 Timothy 1:8-14**

2) Believers Suffer For The Gospel, They Rejoice In The Gospel, & They Retain & Treasure The Gospel

There's an admonition to suffer for the gospel, understanding that it's a holy calling from all eternity! **Vs.8*b*+9**

Although it's never been easy to take a stand for the gospel, what a privilege it is once you've found Him... Better yet, He came to find you!

Any suffering experienced for the sake of the gospel is to be undergirded by His power, and it's to be viewed in light of His perspective.

**\*Vs.'s 10*b* *+* 12*b***

No more death, life to the fullest - only to be topped-off with life eternal with Him, and that's not all... As we're to be assured and convinced that He's going to guard our faith/salvation/souls, until we see Him face-to-face!

**\*Vs.'s 13+14**

Do you retain sound doctrine, and do you treasure the gospel?... It is a costly treasure - in more ways than one. **2 Corinthians 4:7-11**

 **2 Timothy 1:15-18**

3) Believers Run With & Refresh, While Regarding & Remembering Our Kingdom Partners

The Apostle Paul felt deserted near the end of His ministry. **\*Vs.15*a***

When we commit to serving Christ with our lives, we need to do so with eyes wide open, in that - we may go it alone.

So how much more grateful we are when God brings us an Onesiphorous!... A faithful Kingdom Partner we can run with, who brings refreshing, and who we will have regard for and remember for their Kingdom service and commitment.

*"Christ will have no servants except by consent* - *as His people are to be a willing people; He will be all-in-all, or He will be nothing."*

*"The way we serve Him, Jesus tells us, is by becoming the slaves of our fellow-servants, and being willing do literally anything - however costly, irksome or undignified, in order to help them."* - J.I. Packer

*"The essence of Christian service is loyalty to the King, expressing itself, in care for His servants."* - J.I. Packer