

UNFEIGNED FAITH

SCRIPTURAL LESSON: *II Timothy 1:1-14*

GOSPEL TRUTH:

As we labor in the ministry of our Lord Jesus Christ, we must have full confidence that He will provide for all our needs. To accomplish this, it requires that we stay in touch with Him daily through prayer and hearing of His *Word*. Through the Holy Spirit, He is then able to direct us in all our ways. So much so that we can move forward boldly having the Spirit of power, love and a sound mind.

GOLDEN SCRIPTURE:

Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ (Philippians 1:6).

THE APOSTOLIC FAITH CHURCH DOCTRINES:

1. As believers, we need to rely on the Holy Spirit to help us be confident in Jesus and His mission on Earth (*II Timothy 1:6-7*).
2. As we hold fast to our faith in Jesus, He will reward us for all our good works (*Hebrews 10:35-36*).
3. We should never be ashamed of our belief in Jesus Christ (*Luke 9:26-27; II Timothy 1:8*).
4. Our works for God exhibit our faith (*James 2:14-17*).
5. Our love for Jesus will help cast all doubt and fear out of our hearts (*I John 4:18*).

BACKGROUND SETTING:

As Timothy prepared to go out and preach Jesus to lost

souls, there still remained within him the fear of those who would go against him. There were those in the Jewish community who were against the preaching of the Gospel and the grace through Jesus Christ. As the Apostle Paul sensed this fear through the the revelation of the Holy Ghost, he wrote to Timothy to remind him of his grandmother Lois, a woman of great faith. She was amongst those whom Paul preached to. She stood fast on the *Word* that was preached to her and she put on the righteousness of Jesus Christ, not fearing any opposition.

We can be thankful for our grandparents who never wavered in their faith but rather continued to stand on *God's Word*, watching and praying for all. As they taught us the truth, we not only have been blessed but are a blessing to many who come our way as we share the Gospel of Jesus Christ as well.

LESSON SUMMARY:

For us to be good witnesses for Jesus Christ, we must have an unfeigned faith; to be bold not fearing what others may say or do. The Apostle John wrote, "*Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world*" (*I John 4:4*). Jesus overcame death, hell and the grave by sacrificing His life at the Cross and has not only given us the gift of eternal life but His Spirit of power by which we can overcome the enemy. We have to believe it and receive that power to reach the hearts of many who are seeking the truth of Jesus Christ by which they can be saved (*John 3:5; Acts 2:38, 4:12*). As we believe that Jesus is always with us, then we are able to cast out all our fear and doubt. The Apostle Paul did so and with unfeigned faith said, "*For whether we live, we live unto the Lord; and whether we die, we die unto the Lord: whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord's*" (*Romans 14:8*). With boldness, Paul was able to reach many. We too can continue to be a part of this great work of Jesus as well. Knowing that we have the crown of life awaiting us in Heaven, should we be afraid of what should happen to us? No. God is always a prayer away. He is watching over us and He pours out His grace as needed to do His will.

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