



LaKeshia's Pen

May 1, 2016

Greetings Brothers and Sisters in Christ! Thank you so much for visiting our website! Here is an excerpt of my notes from our First Lady's sermon, "Walking in Wisdom."

Be Fearless, Part 1

2 Timothy 1:5-7

You are a purpose, not just a living being!

2nd Timothy is a letter written by Paul the Apostle. He is writing this letter while imprisoned in Rome awaiting execution. He wrote this letter to Timothy who he considered his son in the faith. In other words Timothy was like a son to him. He had taught Timothy many things; Timothy was a student of Paul's and Paul had poured himself into the life of Timothy sharing his gift and wisdom with him in order for Timothy to be able to continue to spread the Gospel of Jesus the Christ. Timothy loved Paul as well and was grieved at Paul's current situation (v.4). Paul not only knew Timothy intimately, but he also knew where Timothy came from because in v.5 he speaks of Timothy's mother and grandmother. He knew at this very difficult time, Timothy was in need of encouragement and that fear was setting itself against Timothy's mind, which caused Timothy to suffer with the conflict of fulfilling his purpose. Have you ever found yourself in a mental battle with fear? Have you found yourself struggling with God? Like Timothy, are you struggling with who God has purposed you to be? In 1st

Timothy 4:14 God tells us not to neglect the gift that is in you. It's not important what the gift is. What's important is not to neglect the gift.

To read the full sermon notes, [click here!](#)

We pray that this Message will bless you the way it blessed us! Please come back again next week for more from "LaKesha's Pen" with another inspiring message.

Yours in Christ,
LaKesha Johnson-Lewis

Full Sermon

Be Fearless, Part 1

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2nd Timothy is a letter written by Paul the Apostle. He is writing this letter while imprisoned in Rome awaiting execution. He wrote this letter to Timothy who he considered his son in the faith. In other words Timothy was like a son to him. He had taught Timothy many things; Timothy was a student of Paul's and Paul had poured himself into the life of Timothy sharing his gift and wisdom with him in order for Timothy to be able to continue to spread the Gospel of Jesus the Christ. Timothy loved Paul as well and was grieved at Paul's current situation (v.4). Paul not only knew Timothy intimately, but he also knew where Timothy came from because in v.5 he speaks of Timothy's mother and grandmother. He knew at this very difficult time, Timothy was in need of encouragement and that fear was setting itself against Timothy's mind, which caused Timothy to suffer with the conflict of fulfilling his purpose. Have you ever found yourself in a mental battle with fear? Have you found yourself struggling with God? Like

Timothy, are you struggling with who God has purposed you to be? In 1st **Timothy 4:14** God tells us not to neglect the gift that is in you. It's not important what the gift is. What's important is not to neglect the gift.

Your gift is that thing you do that flips everybody else out, but doesn't flip you out.

Your gift is the thing you can do with ease and you enjoy doing it. You will find that your life will never be good enough until you utilize your gift. Many people just sit on their gift. Are you sitting on yours? Your gift was not given to you just for you but for the enjoyment of others; just as you may find yourself admiring and enjoying someone else's gift. Take for example the person you know who is really good at their finances and very resourceful. This is the person you may run to when you find yourself needing assistance with making a financial decision. God gave them the gift of grace and wisdom concerning money and it comes to them with ease. Others may have the gift of music, playing musical instruments or singing. To another the gift of patience in dealing with small children (that's the person you can count on to babysit your children) and this is just to name a few. God wants to encourage you to begin to use your gift. Satan on the other hand wants you to believe the lies he whispers to you, such as, you're not good enough to be used by God. Remember you did.... Or he might tell you that gift isn't really important. No one cares if you are good at that or so and so is better at that than you! With each one of these lies fear is at the basis of it. You may be afraid of the rejection you might receive or the judgement from others. You might be afraid that someone else may come along who does it better than you or they might receive more recognition than you. No one is perfect and no one has it all together. Here's what Satan doesn't want you to know....God wants the things you can't fix. If He didn't want to fix you He wouldn't have sent his Son for you; to save you, to heal you and to make you useful for Kingdom purposes. Sometimes we find ourselves believing the lie that your gift is not a Kingdom Gift but a secular gift or worldly gift and doesn't belong in the church or is not useful to the church. There is a lady who has the gift of

making things beautiful. Her home is welcoming and filled with beautiful décor. She is creative and loves planning and decorating parties. She has the natural talent to make center pieces and other home décor items but Satan tells her that gift is not important enough to be used for the church. She feels a void in her life. She believes the lies of Satan. Her ability to make the ordinary, extraordinary is a gift useful by God and the church. To decorate the church would bring honor to God and be so inviting to the people who come. There may be a young mother who has her 1st apartment and can't really afford much but this lady's gift would minister the love of Christ to her. Don't allow Satan to minimize the usefulness of your gift. Give it to God and allow Him to add his Super to your natural gift and watch it become Supernatural for the glory of God!

You must set aside time to feed your spirit!

There is a news broadcast stating there is a shortage of water for our community and Living Water Christian Center is the only source of fresh water and everyone is advised that they can have as much water as they need. A guy comes with 24oz slurpy cup and fills it up with water, then his neighbor comes with a truck hauling a bath tub and he fills it up with water. The man with the cup comes back angry and said why did his neighbor receive more than he did? They advised the man that water is available to all without discrimination and we gave you as much water as **your** container could carry. Is it our fault he brought a larger container? The question you have to ask yourself is which guy are you. Are you going to God with a slurpy cup or are you going with a bath tub? God can only bless you and your gift according to the knowledge you have of Him. If you only know Jesus as your Savior then your faith will be limited to only believing you will go to Heaven when you die. If you know Him as only your Savior and Healer then you will not have the faith to believe Him to help you with your finances. If you know Him as a Savior and you desire to have an intimate personal relationship with Him by spending time with Him

in prayer and in His Word you will begin to know our God is limitless and desires a personal relationship with you. He wants to fix you and make you useful for His glory and for His Kingdom as well as much more. This comes at a cost! It will cost you your time. You must make a reasonable effort to set aside quiet time to feed your spirit. This can be done in numerous ways and will vary person to person depending on your personality but it starts by just making yourself available to let the Holy Spirit speak to you through **prayer** and **study**. God may lead you one day through prayer and study to use your gift this way and another time to use it another way but how will you know unless you are spending quality time with Him? What are doing with your time?

Don't let your past stop you!

You must begin to see yourself valuable and useful to God. You have been given a gift! Don't allow your past to stop you! God is a right now God. He won't go back and undo what has gone wrong, but He wants to bless you right now! Nowadays some Millennium kids have a "want it now" attitude and they believe they can get it now without having to work for it. God rains blessings down through opportunities. Paul is telling Timothy in this letter he must get his thoughts together (**Romans 12**). To conquer fear it begins in the mind. In **Philippians 4:8**, God tells us what we should be thinking about. Conquering fear starts with a new way of thinking. Right now you are either making choices out of fear or out of faith and God is not obligated to finish a thing unless he starts a thing. Verse 7 lets us know that the spirit of fear is not from God and if your decision was made based out of fear then you are operating outside of God's will for your life. For example Adolf Hitler, he was a man of power but he acted on his fear instead of faith. He allowed his fear of the Jewish people lead him to being

responsible for the death of millions of innocent people. Had he given his talent to lead over to God and for His glory Hitler could've ended up being a great man leading millions to Christ and healing his country. Instead he was a tyrant who killed and incited more fear instead of more faith. Fear restricts, it keeps people from being free and it causes intimidation. Your gift is just that: a gift. You didn't earn it or deserve it. God gave it freely. Now it's up to you decide whether you will use it based in fear or based in faith. Will you base it on your past or will you base it on what God is able to do right now?

Read Matthew 25:14-30. Which steward are you? The wicked steward is the one who based his decision out of fear according to verse 25 and look at how his life ended.

Are you prospering in your gift?

As a steward or manager over what has been given to you, when you operate in your gift it will multiply, just as the good stewards in the story from Matthew. You will know when you are operating in your gift when you begin to use it for the benefit of others. Your prosperity or success in life is dependent upon how well you operate your gift through the aid of the Holy Spirit. God's "Super" on your "natural." Don't believe the lies of Satan telling you, you are damaged goods. Don't listen to him tell you, you can't live for God because of this thing or that thing. Ask God to give you the grace to be an overcomer because God has already forgiven you! Like Jesus, talk back to Satan and remind him you have been forgiven by the Blood of Jesus Christ. Don't allow the fear of secrets to keep you from prospering. Do not be afraid of the past! Don't allow Satan to keep you from your destiny. He is using the spirit of fear to stop you from walking into your purpose. God fixes "damaged goods".

Live a life of purpose don't just live a life!