

Sunday, July 3, 2022 | Mark Younge

"This is why I remind you to fan into flames the spiritual gift God gave you when I laid my hands on you. ⁷For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline. ⁸So never be ashamed to tell others about our Lord. And don't be ashamed of me, either even though I'm in prison for him. With the strength God gives you, be ready to suffer with me for the sake of the Good News." (2 Timothy 1:6-8 NLT)

God's purpose for our lives is for us to make a difference by SERVING OTHERS.

"For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them." (Ephesians 2:10 ESV)

"God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another. Do you have the gift of speaking? Then speak as though God himself were speaking through you. Do you have the gift of helping others? Do it with all the strength and energy that God supplies. Then everything you do will bring glory to God through Jesus Christ. All glory and power to him forever and ever! Amen." (1 Peter 4:10-11 NLT)

"To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good." (1 Corinthians 12:7 ESV)

SIN and the "CARES OF LIFE" can snuff out our flame (spiritual zeal for God).

"...For whatever does not proceed from faith is sin." (Romans 14:23 ESV)

"Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them...As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful." (Matthew 13:7, 22 ESV)

"Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest's house, and Peter was following at a distance. ⁵⁵And when they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat down among them. ⁵⁶Then a servant girl, seeing him as he sat in the light and looking closely at him, said, 'This man also was with him.' ⁵⁷But he denied it, saying, 'Woman, I do not know him.' ⁵⁸And a little later someone else saw him and said, 'You also are one of them.' But Peter said, 'Man, I am not.' ⁵⁹And after an interval of about an hour still another insisted, saying, 'Certainly this man also was with him, for he too is a Galilean.' ⁶⁰But Peter said, 'Man, I do not know what you are talking about.' And immediately, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed. ⁶¹And the Lord turned and looked at Peter. And Peter remembered the saying of the Lord, how he had said to him, 'Before the rooster crows today, you will deny me three times.' ⁶²And he went out and wept bitterly." (Luke 22:54-62, ESV)

We need to "FAN INTO FLAMES" our spiritual gifts.

We Fan Our Gifts into Flame by Hearing God's Word

"So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." (Romans 10:17 NKJV)

We Fan Our Gifts into Flames by Receiving God's Love

"If I could speak all the languages of earth and of angels, but didn't love others, I would only be a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. ²If I had the gift of prophecy, and if I understood all of God's secret plans and possessed all knowledge, and if I had such faith that I could move mountains, but didn't love others, I would be nothing. ³If I gave everything I have to the poor and even sacrificed my body, I could boast about it; but if I didn't love others, I would have gained nothing." (1 Corinthians 13:1-3, NLT)

We Fan Our Gifts into Flame by Activating the Holy Spirit

"...It is not by force nor by strength, but by my Spirit, says the Lord of Heaven's Armies." (Zechariah 4:6 NLT)