

*For God has not given us a spirit of timidity, but of power and love and discipline (2Tim. 1:7; NASB).*

In the verse above the apostle Paul instructs Timothy concerning the power available to Christians. Oh, to realize that power! Fact is, the more I think about this verse the more I come to realize that if we would only do what it says that we could do everything we need to do! Think about it with me for a minute...

1. We have a spirit of power. God's power resides in us and it is more than we can ask or imagine (Eph. 3:20,21). God has not left us without talent or ability. Paul said he could do all things through Christ who gave him strength (Phil. 4:13)--so can we! Do not underestimate yourself. With God's help you can do it!
2. We have a spirit of love. Passion makes even the most difficult job attainable. Those who have a great passion or desire to do whatever--get it done! All of the greats in literature, music, sports, theater, and politics had a passion for what they were doing. It was a single-minded devotion to their craft or gift. Christians are to have a zeal for God (Ti. 3:14) and for doing the will of God. Love the right things and you will develop a passion for them. Allow that passion to help you do it!
3. We have a spirit of self-control. Rarely do things happen over night or even after one trial. It takes time and repeated effort to accomplish worthwhile tasks. Fortunately, Christians have a spirit of self-control or discipline. For example, most diets will work if we will but have two things; discipline and patience. We can do most anything if we will discipline ourselves. Staying on course, following the rules, and never giving up is self-control. And when you have these things working in your life you can do it!

Set your goals, pray, and then put the formula of 2Tim. 1:7 to work in your life.

See you Sunday! -gls