

Sermon: Gospel Confidence; Date: May 28, 2017
Delivered by: Rev. Jeff Brewer, pastor, Hope Fellowship Church, Lombard

Bible text explored: 2 Timothy 1:8–14

⁸Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God, ⁹who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, ¹⁰and which now has been manifested through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel, ¹¹for which I was appointed a preacher and apostle and teacher, ¹²which is why I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and I am convinced that he is able to guard until that day what has been entrusted to me. ¹³Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁴By the Holy Spirit who dwells within us, guard the good deposit entrusted to you.

[ESV]

Review and application:

1. How do we know, from the preceding verses (2 Tim. 1:6-7), that Timothy struggled with timidity?
(See also 1 Cor. 16:10-11 and 1 Tim. 4:12.)

On a one-to-ten scale, how would you rate your own gospel sharing confidence?

2. In passing the torch on to Timothy, Paul (v. 8) tackles his timidity directly. What knowledge (v. 12) does Paul say bolsters his own confidence?

What confidence-building feats (vv. 9-10) did Jesus achieve through his death and resurrection?

(See also Heb. 2:14-15.)

While Paul was appointed an apostle, Pastor Brewer declared that “God takes pleasure in making displays of ordinary people.”

3. Paul refers (in v. 9), to some gospel basics that should boost our confidence. Why were we saved?
(See also 2 Tim. 2:21.)

When was our salvation determined?

4. Paul goes on to lay out two building blocks for developing a confident faith. What pattern (v. 13) are we to follow?
(See also 1 Tim. 6:3.)

What precious trust (v. 14) are we to protect?

(See also 2 Tim. 2:1-2 and 15; 3:10 and 14-15.)