

Going Grit The Obstacle of Fear

*Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.
(Heb. 12:1-2)*

☞ **Key to overcoming fear: Keeping a constant focus on the Lord, remembering His Words and Works** - “Come”, he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink cried out, “Lord, save me!” (Matthew 14:29-30)

Causes of fear – the trip wires:

- Relational fears (failure, rejection, intimacy, commitment)
- Recreational fears (skydiving, skiing a double black, flying)
- Aversions (spiders, needles, peanut butter sticking to the roof of the mouth)

What fear causes:

- Reduces the size of God and elevates the opinion of man
- It will lead you in the wrong direction
- Seek consensus rather than seek the will of God - (1 Kings 22)
- Make a comfortable decision rather than the right decision

Going grit: spiritual stamina to pursue sincere faith...

*I have been reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also. ⁶For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. ⁷For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline.
(2 Timothy 1:5-7)*

Sincere faith breeds sincere faith – “first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice.”

☞ **Sincere Faith is externally visible (reminded) of the internal reality (lives in) that continually persuades others (convinced)...**

- Give yourself to community

Sincere faith is actively exercised – fan into flame the gift of God...

- Remember your commissioning – which is in you through the laying on of my hands ...

Sincere faith has fear fighting virtues – For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline...

- **Virtue of Power**– For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. ³I came to you in weakness and fear, and with much trembling. ⁴My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a

demonstration of the Spirit's power, ⁵so that your faith might not rest on men's wisdom, but on God's power. (1 Corinthians 2:2-5)

- **Virtue of Love** – "...you may command certain men not to teach false doctrines any longer ⁴nor to devote themselves to myths and endless genealogies. These promote controversies rather than God's work – which is by faith. ⁵The goal of this command is love, which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith. (1 Timothy 1:3b-5)
- **Virtue of Self-Discipline** - Have nothing to do with godless myths and old wives' tales; rather train yourself to be godly. (1 Timothy 4:7)

For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain.
(Philippians 1:21)