

Series: The Essential Church; Sermon: **We're in This Together**;  
Delivered on June 2, 2019, by **Dr. Josh Moody**, senior pastor

**Bible text explored: 2 Timothy 1:1–7**

<sup>1</sup>Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God according to the promise of the life that is in Christ Jesus,

<sup>2</sup>To Timothy, my beloved child:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

<sup>3</sup>I thank God whom I serve, as did my ancestors, with a clear conscience, as I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. <sup>4</sup>As I remember your tears, I long to see you, that I may be filled with joy. <sup>5</sup>I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, dwells in you as well. <sup>6</sup>For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands, <sup>7</sup>for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control. [ESV]

**Review and application:**

1. Pastor Josh launched a great summer sermon series entitled “The Essential Church”. What does that 3-word term mean to you?
2. What’s a metaphor you like to use in thinking of “church”? Using that as your frame of reference, how does “church” intersect your life and influence your walk with God?
3. Pastor Josh noted that the apostle Paul is telling Timothy “you need to take responsibility because we’re in this together!” What do you think that means? How does that apply to you?

Pastor Josh drew out 3 ingredients that inform and direct every believer’s role in “the essential church”, ingredients without which the church cannot thrive.

4. **Discipleship:** *“An intentional friendship for the purpose of spiritual growth that is tailor-made for the person being disciplined.”*
  - a. Who has disciplined you?
  - b. Whom are you discipling?
  - c. What are some of your learnings in your own discipleship experience, either being disciplined or discipling another person?
  - d. Take a few minutes in your group to pray for each other, for active, Spirit-led, God-honoring discipleship opportunities.
5. **Prayer – vv. 3-5**
  - a. What does Paul teach us about how to pray in these verses? (A few thought-starters to prompt your answers: passion... specificity – there are others.)
  - b. Can you share with the group a pattern or template that you use to help in your daily prayer walk with God?
6. **Gift – vv. 6-7 – God-given talents or abilities given to believers by the Holy Spirit to build up, inspire and support the church.** Review Eph 4:11-13, Rom 12:6-8 to provide a frame of reference for this discussion.

- a. 1 Tim 1:6-7 seem to reference something that happened in that community of believers. Pastor Josh noted, “The way you identify your gift is what people in the church have noticed and affirmed.” What are the implications in terms of spiritual gifts and how they are used?
- b. Share with the group what God has shown you about His spiritual gift imparted to you? How have you seen that affirmed in the life of the church?
- c. True or false: “If I don’t have the gift for \_\_\_\_\_, I don’t need to do it.” Explain.
- d. Pastor Josh talked of maximizing your use of God’s gift through training – read, learn, practice, get feedback, repeat...and repeat. Any experiences to share on how God has helped you maximize your use of God’s gift and “fan it into flame”?