

Week 19
124/241

Transforming Daily
“... the genuine faith that is in you ...”
2 Timothy 1:5

I am often accused of looking and acting like my dad. He loved to aggravate and agitate, stir stuff up and sit back and watch it unfold; otherwise known as messing with people's minds. When people recognize this characteristic in me I always say that it is a spiritual gift that I got from my father (little “f”). It's humorous because, one, it's true, and two, it's contrasted against the true spiritual gifts of my heavenly Father (big “F”) who doesn't give gifts to cause trouble, confusion or chaos.

My brother and my sister, on the other hand, take after my mother. Though all three of us have characteristics of both of our parents (like most children do), they are more like my mother. They look like her and act like her. Neither my brother nor my sister is immediate with confrontation (all though they won't hesitate to be confrontational if the situation dictates, it isn't their first reaction). They also tend to be more positive, quicker to compassion and willing to forgive (more readily than I) just like our mother.

Paul noticed a similar reflection in Timothy's life. Paul praised God for Timothy and encouraged him to continue to exercise that faith that he saw in timothy's grandmother and mother, first, and now resides in him. Timothy's faith was not conjured by his own will or purposefully imitated by him of his grandmother and mother. It was supernatural. Timothy received the same genetic predispositions (implied) and spiritual gift of faith from God that his grandmother and mother possessed.

What about you? Do you possess spiritual gifts of your mother and grandmother to be exercised for the glory of God? Maybe your spiritual gift(s) isn't evident to you. If not, then observe your parents and grandparents to see if what is in them is in you. Maybe you need to sit down and spend some quality time with them to understand better what is in you that first might have been or is in them. Who knows, the genuine faith that was or is in your grandmother and mother might be the genuine faith that is in you.