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## Keep the Fire Burning

*On September 10th, we were all stunned to learn that Charlie Kirk had been assassinated. One immediate reaction was that the threats from Charlie's enemies would cause people to think twice before speaking out about their faith or values. Yet we have seen tens of thousands gathered worldwide to honor his life and legacy as they declare Christ is King. His widow, Erika, publicly said two days after his death that a fire had been lit in her and in the next generation—a fire to be bold and courageous as we all stand for Truth. Our challenge is to keep that fire burning...*

### I. DON'T BE AFRAID

#### 2 Timothy 1:3-7

- Living in the Roman empire, what could have been the reasons for Timothy's timidity or fear? 1:7
- What reasons do you have for being afraid to stand up and speak out for your faith?
- In each of the following examples, what could have caused fear? Instead, what was the result of the threats? John 9:13-34; Acts 4:1-10, 13-21
- Who was praying for Timothy? 1:3
- What encouragement do you think this was to Timothy?
- Who is praying for you?
- Do you have a prayer partner? If not, would you ask God to bring someone to mind that you could pray with daily, weekly, or monthly?
- Who else is praying for you? Hebrews 7:25; Romans 8:26-27
- What difference does prayer make when you face hostility for your witness? Acts 4:23-32
- What encouragement does this give you?

### II. DON'T BE ASHAMED

#### 2 Timothy 1:8-12

- What specifically did Paul tell Timothy not to be ashamed of? 1:8
- What two situations possibly tempted Timothy to be ashamed? 1:8-9
- In today's world, how does living a holy life provoke suffering, persecution, marginalization, ostracism, criticism?

- When have you suffered because of the difference Jesus has made in the way you live?
- When have you been ashamed of Jesus to the point you remained silent when you should have spoken, or seated when you should have taken a stand? When have you stood up or spoken out for Jesus even though scared?
- How did Paul set the example for Timothy? 1:11-12
- Who else has set the example for us? Hebrews 12:1-3
- What example are you setting for the next generation?

*Keep fanning the flame...!*