Introduction

There is a natural tendency for the fire in our heart to grow cold.

Paul urges Timothy to "fan into flame the gift of God which is in you."

How do we fan the flame in our heart?

Paul wrote this letter from prison in Rome.

Paul knows his work is done and he is about to die.

He is thinking about the promise of life we have in Christ.

“For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.” Philippians 1:21

“Night and day, I constantly remember you in my prayers.” Verse 3

Paul prayed consistently for those he discipled.

Prayer is one of the most effective ways that we can help others.

Who is on your prayer list?
Paul loved Timothy. Paul felt like a father to Timothy. Paul and Timothy were very different. Yet Paul loved Timothy and he believed in him.

We need people in our life like Paul. Without the support of godly mentors and friends in our life, our love for Christ will grow cold. Do you have those relationships in your life?

If you are a believer, the Holy Spirit dwells in you and you have been given a spiritual gift. It is up to us to use what we have been given.

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen." I Peter 4:10-11

Timothy had received a gift through the laying on of hands by Paul. Now, years later, Paul exhorts Timothy to use his gifts to the fullest. If we don’t use our gifts, we will lose them or they will remain undeveloped.
Conclusion

If we are going to keep the flame burning in our heart:

- We need to pray.
- We need to stay connected to the church.
- We need to walk in the power of the Holy Spirit.