Sermon Title: I Get It From My Momma

Guest Preacher: Rev. Winford K. Rice, Jr.

Bible Passage: 2Timothy 1:3-7 (NRSV)

November 20, 2022

**Scripture:** I

**3**I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. **4**Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. **5**I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. **6**For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands, **7**for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

**Sermon Notes:**

Rev. Rice shared with us some of the many ways he “Got it from his “momma” and how she influenced many aspects of his life. One of the things she taught him was how to cook. She told him to choose ingredients that don’t expire. It taught him to stop trying to put expired ingredients in your life expecting to get fresh results. He shared with us that we have to let go of the expired things in our lives and be grateful unto God that some things from our past have expired. Rev, Rice reminded us that some of the ingredients in our lives have to be shaken up before they can be used. He reminded us that sometimes God will shake things up, make us uncomfortable and stir things up to make us mature.

Using Paul and Timothy as example, Rev Rice urged and inspired us.

1. **Learn to use your memory** to stir up God’s gifts within you. The same God who was with our ancestors is with us right now. Despite where we may find ourselves now, we have to remember where we have come from, and speak to power NOW. We have to believe that God has put victory in us to change this world and we have to behave as if we believe.
2. **Learn to Embrace your mystery – the mystery uniquely within YOU**…..: Stop waiting for that which is outside of you to manifest, confirm or agree with what God has already deposited inside of you. Keep on doing what God has called you to do. Stir up the God within you; stoke the fire of God within so that fire does not burn out.
3. **It will bring forth your ministry**: God has not given us the spirt of fear. **We** are not inadequate. We are powerful like dynamite because God has given us love, power and a sound mind.

The power we have is the same power that Jesus had. By that power He was crucified, dead, buried and resurrected with ALL power in His hands.

**Discussion Questions**

1. What does your memory tell you about the faith of your ancestors? Does their faith affect your faith?
2. Describe the mystery uniquely within you? Is it “burning” or does it need “stirring”?
3. In what ways does the spirit of fear frustrate you and/or hinder the power of God within you?
4. Who are the real people and what are the real things that war against the power of God within you?
5. What help do you need to stir up the gifts of God within you?