

## **WANTED: COURAGEOUS CHRISTIANS**

Pastor Dennis Clanton  
Woodland Church  
Wednesday, April 7, 2021

*“For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline.” (2 Timothy 1:7, NLT)*

### **1. God enables me to live an abundant life, not a cowardly life.**

*“Be well balanced (temperate, sober of mind), be vigilant and cautious at all times; for that enemy of yours, the devil, roams around like a lion roaring [in fierce hunger], seeking someone to seize upon and devour.” (1 Peter 5:8, AMP)*

*“For God did not give us a spirit of timidity (of cowardice, of craven and cringing and fawning fear), but [He has given us a spirit] of power and of love and of calm and well-balanced mind and discipline and self-control.” (2 Timothy 1:7, AMP)*

*“Then he added, “Every teacher of religious law who becomes a disciple in the Kingdom of Heaven is like a homeowner who brings from his storeroom new gems of truth as well as old.” (Matthew 13:52, NLT)*

- a. Teacher – learning**
- b. Disciple – living**
- c. Homeowner – sharing**

*“But when I am afraid, I will put my trust in you.” (Psalm 56:3, NLT)*

*“If I must die, I must die.” (Esther 4:16, NLT)*

### **d. Fear and timidity will condemn you to a disastrous life.**

*“I was afraid I would lose your money, so I hid it in the earth. Look, here is your money back.” (Matthew 25:25, NLT)*

*“But cowards, unbelievers, the corrupt, murderers, the immoral, those who practice witchcraft, idol worshipers, and all liars—their fate is in the fiery lake of burning sulfur. This is the second death.”*  
(Revelation 21:8, NLT)

## 2. God equips me to live an abundant life.

*“For God has ... given us ... power, love, and self discipline.”*

*“And now the prize awaits me—the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give me on the day of his return. And the prize is not just for me but for all who eagerly look forward to his appearing.”*  
(2 Timothy 4:8, NLT)

*“When we arrived in Macedonia, there was no rest for us. We faced conflict from every direction, with battles on the outside and fear on the inside.”*  
(2 Corinthians 7:5, NLT)

*“When you follow the desires of your sinful nature, the results are very clear: sexual immorality, impurity, lustful pleasures, idolatry, sorcery, hostility, quarreling, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, dissension, division, envy, drunkenness, wild parties, and other sins like these. Let me tell you again, as I have before, that anyone living that sort of life will not inherit the Kingdom of God.”* (Galatians 5:19–21, NLT)

## 3. God is looking for men and women of faith.

*“I will think about each one of your mighty deeds. Everything you do is right, and no other god compares with you. You alone work miracles, and you have let nations see your mighty power.”* (Psalm 77:12–14, CEV)

*“Only Luke is with me. Bring Mark with you when you come, for he will be helpful to me in my ministry.”* (2 Timothy 4:11, NLT)