

## **Growing Strong in Faith | Part 2**

Lesson 8

1 Timothy 1:12-20

May 28, 2023

### **Telling Your Story**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

The walk of every believer is a process that begins at the beginning of life. We are all born into a life of sin. God in His grace and mercy CALLS us out of that life and REDEEMS us through the blood of His son, Jesus. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, we are then honed into the likeness of our Lord so we may be a testimony to those around us.

We see the process played out in our study this week through the life of Paul. We will look at his sins, his miraculous conversion, his growth, and his ministry that has been a witness to all that have come after him.

1 Timothy is Paul's testimony to Timothy, encouraging him in his future ministry. We are also called to give testimony as a way of encouraging those that will continue the ministry of Christ.

***Memory verse: "Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst."—1 Timothy 1:15***

Pray, and read 1 Timothy 1:12-20. What questions or observations do you have about this passage?

**OBSERVATION: What does the passage say?**

1. Of what sins was Saul (Paul) guilty prior to his redemption? (1 Timothy 1:13a)
2. How did God respond to these sins? (1 Timothy 1:13b-16)
3. What was Jesus' primary purpose? (1 Timothy 1:15-17)
4. What instructions did Paul give to Timothy? (1 Timothy 1:18-19)

## **INTERPRETATION: What do the passages mean?**

1. Paul is very honest about his sins. As a result of that honesty, he thanks God for two things that drew him to God. What are they? (1 Corinthians 15:9-10; Ephesians 2:4-5; 1 Peter 1:3-5)
2. According to the memory verse, "...Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners..." What does that show about the character of God? What is the ongoing result of that salvation? (Romans 8:28-30)
3. What were the "...prophecies once made about you...."? (1 Timothy 1:18, 4:14; 2 Timothy 1:6-7)

4. Paul encourages Timothy not to neglect his gifts. How does Paul encourage believers in regards to spiritual gifts? (Romans 12:3-8)

**APPLICATION: How do the passages apply to your life?**

1. Romans 8:29-30: “For those God foreknew He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. And those He predestined, He also called; those He called, He also justified; those He justified, He also glorified.” How do you see this passage played out in your life?

2. Paul's testimony not only blessed the early church but every generation for 2,000 years. Peter encourages every believer to, "Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have." (1 Peter 3:15) Our testimony to others may be the only Bible they ever hear. It can be long and eloquent like Paul's or simple like, "Whether he is a sinner or not, I don't know. One thing I do know. I was blind but now I see!" (John 9:25). What is the reason for the hope that you have?