

CROSSWINDS

WHAT IS THE CHURCH?

1 TIMOTHY 1:12-20



CONNECTION QUESTION

How did you become a Christian? Take time sharing your stories of salvation with one another.

STUDY

This Sunday we saw that if God could save you and me, then he can save anyone. Do you have family members or good friends who are not Christians? How do these verses and Paul's conversion give you hope?

Read Ephesians 2:1–3. How does Paul describe humanity before Christianity? While Paul's testimony gives us hope, it also serves as a humbling reminder of our own need for salvation. How does the grace of salvation make us humble?

Read 1 Timothy 1:12. How does the gospel lead to gratitude? How do we express our gratitude in both word and deed?

Read 1 Timothy 1:13–14. How does Paul describe himself to Timothy before his conversion? Why was Paul in need of grace?

Read Acts 7:58; 8:1–3; 9:1–2. Paul's good friend Luke wrote about Paul before his conversion. How is he described in these passages?

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Read Philippians 3:4–6; Acts 26:9–11. How does Paul describe his previous life? How would you describe Paul's "faith in God" before his conversion? How do these verses help us understand Paul receiving mercy "because I acted ignorantly"?

What can we learn from Paul's conversion? How does that inspire you in your own conversion? In praying for the conversions of others?

Read 1 Timothy 1:15. How does Paul describe himself? Should we have the same mindset? Why or why not? What is the proper "self-image" for the Christian?

Read 1 Timothy 1:17. Paul breaks into worship after speaking of his conversion. How does Paul describe God in these verses? How does a personal work of God lead us to a grander picture of God?

ACTION

If able, spend some time as a life group in worship over the gift of salvation.

Spend some time as a life group praying for those family members and friends who are not Christians with the confidence that nothing is impossible for God.