

The Motive for Reaching the Lost

(1 Timothy 1:12-17)

- Introduction:
1. How do we account for the radical change that took place in Paul's life?
 2. He moved from a zealous persecutor of the church to one of the greatest evangelists who has ever lived.
 3. Let's not just talk about Paul, how can we move from where we are to become a faithful proclaimer of the gospel?
 4. In one word, the answer is "grace."
 5. In this lesson, I want to demonstrate the power that God's grace has over our lives.

I. Paul Was Thankful for Grace

- A. (1 Timothy 1:12).
- B. Nearly 50 times, Paul expressed thanks in his writings.
- C. The reception of God's grace should be received with overwhelming thanksgiving.

II. Paul Was Indebted to Grace

- A. (1 Timothy 1:13).
- B. Consider how God's grace made his past surmountable, and how indebted he must have felt.
 1. (Acts 7:54-8:1) He assisted in the murder of Stephen.
 2. (Acts 8:4) He made havoc of the church.
 3. (Acts 26:10) He made murderous threats and carried through with those threats.
 4. (Acts 26:10-11) Paul said he was an "insolent" man.
 5. (Acts 26:11) He compelled Christians to blaspheme.
- C. It's no wonder that Paul called himself the chief of sinners (1 Timothy 1:15) and the least of all the saints (Ephesians 3:8).
- D. (Romans 1:14) Paul affirmed he was indebted.

III. Paul Was Supplied by Grace.

- A. (1 Timothy 1:14).
- B. God's grace doesn't barely save us, but it is abundant.
 1. (Romans 5:20) Grace abounds.
 2. (John 1:16) Accumulated grace.

- Conclusion:
1. I'm convinced that the motivation to evangelize is wrapped up in grace, not guilt.
 2. The more we glory in God's grace the more we will speak freely of his good news.