

SERMON GUIDE

A GOSPEL INSPIRED LIFE

I Timothy 1:12-17

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The Conversation Guide is a great tool for individuals, families, discipleship groups and Missional Communities to take a deeper, more personal dive into the content of the current sermon series. The Conversation Guide will be posted by every Friday on the 'live' page of our website and in our weekly newsletter. We encourage you to use it this week on your own, around your dinner tables, over coffee with your friends or in your faith groups!

The Conversation Guide is built on the SOAP model, which is a tool you can use when reading the Bible. SOAP helps you be intentional about paying attention to:

- S**cripture that stands out to you while you read
- O**bservations about the verse or phrases that stood out to you
- A**pplication that connect the verses to your real life and relationships
- P**rayers that invites God to participate in your life and provide power to follow him

Conversation Questions

Getting to Know Me: Have you ever had someone give you a second chance? Share the story.

Note About the Passage: Today's reading will be the apostle Paul's reflection on his conversion. If you're unfamiliar with the story of Paul's conversion, you might pause and read Acts 9:1-22. For those completely new to the story of Paul, you might check out this video from the Bible Project:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oiVAbkINtRU>

Read I Timothy 1:12-17

- S** What verses, phrases, or words stand out to you as you read these scriptures? Is anything jumping off the page and affecting your spirit?
- O** Paul says that he was "a blasphemer, persecutor, and insolent opponent" (1:13) – This was the "fruit" of his life. He goes on to say that the root was "ignorance and unbelief," (1:13).
 - Based on what you know of Paul's life, what did he not know (ignorance)?
 - What was he struggling to believe about Jesus (unbelief)?
- O** Does Paul's experience of ignorance and unbelief resonate with your personal experience at all? How? How might churches also experience ignorance and unbelief?
- O** Take some time now to reflect on everything that Paul says in these verses about God. What is God like in response to Paul's ignorance and unbelief?

Does anything surprise you? Encourage you? Confuse you? What do you love most?

A If God had written this passage just for you, what words, phrases or ideas would he have underlined specifically for you? What did you need to hear most? Why?

A People (and churches) are often characterized by ignorance and unbelief. God's response is to strengthen and call us to his service (v.12); show mercy (v.13); shower us with grace, faith and love (v.14); and be patient with us (v.16).

A How do you see God doing this in your life right now? What unbelief and ignorance is he patiently addressing in your life right now?

P How do you see God doing this at Faith Community Church right now?
Talk to God about your application responses above. Ask him to speak to you, help you, forgive you, and provide direction that you need.