

## UNLIKELY PEOPLE IN UNLIKELY CHURCHES

1 Timothy 1:12-17

It's not the healthy that need a doctor; it is the sick. I have not come to call the righteous but the sinners to repentance.

Jesus Christ

## The unlikely messenger

God will often use those whom we would reject

We reject people

- because of their past
- because of their faults
- because of their personality
- because of their failure

God accepted Paul (and us) because Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners (1 Tim 1:15; Ezekiel 3:11-12)

Unlikely churches – Paul was not the end-point of God's grace

Churches are not perfect places filled with perfect people

God's uses Paul to demonstrate his transforming grace in Paul's life

If God can forgive the worst of sinners, he can forgive anyone

If God can save Paul, he can save anyone

If God can transform Paul, he can transform anyone

## Taking it home

Even though Paul was forgiven he never forgot his past; it made the realization of God's grace even greater. Read 1 Timothy 1:15 and Ezekiel 33:10-12. Consider God's grace to you in your life and take some time meditating on Paul's response to God's grace in his life (1 Timothy 1:17).