

Sermon Notes

1 Timothy 1:12-17
November 22, 2015

Surprised by Grace

What do these names have in common: Adolf Hitler, Saddam Hussein, Osama bin Laden and Saul of Tarsus? That list of names goes down as a notorious band of bad guys. *Really bad guys!* Like the man in the Jim Croce song, "He was bad-bad Leroy Brown-baddest man in the whole downtown--badder than ole King Kong, and meaner than a junkyard dog!" (Croce, Jim. "Bad, Bad Leroy Brown.")

That's how history will remember most...but not all of the names I listed. Do you know which one is the exception? Do you know why?

- Think of someone who is on your list of people who are "least likely to love Jesus." Why are they on your list? Were *they...you?*
- Read Galatians 1:11-24. If you had been alive at the time, do you think you would have been *surprised* or *suspicious* upon hearing the news about Saul of Tarsus?
- If 1Timothy 1:13 was Paul's rap-sheet, how does your rap sheet read?
- Why do you think Paul talked so much about his past? (Acts 22:4-5, 26:9-11; Gal 1:13-15)
- What does it say to you that God's desire to "save sinners" includes the likes of "Saul of *Isis*?" (See Luke 1:10; 1Tim 2:4; 2 Peter 3:9)
- As we watch and hear about evil in the world, how should Paul's redemption story influence how you react? Pray?

Digging Deeper in God's Word

Lk 19:10; Mk 10:45; 2 Cor 5:15; 1 Tim 2:4; Gal 1:13-15; Acts 7:58-8:3; 9:1-6; 22:4-5; 26:9-11; Romans 2:4

* Pastor Steve McCracken.
Messages are accessible at www.gracepointfamily.com.
CD's are available by request.



Sermon Notes

1 Timothy 1:12-17
November 22, 2015

Surprised by Grace

What do these names have in common: Adolf Hitler, Saddam Hussein, Osama bin Laden and Saul of Tarsus? That list of names goes down as a notorious band of bad guys. *Really bad guys!* Like the man in the Jim Croce song, "He was bad-bad Leroy Brown-baddest man in the whole downtown--badder than ole King Kong, and meaner than a junkyard dog!" (Croce, Jim. "Bad, Bad Leroy Brown.")

That's how history will remember most...but not all of the names I listed. Do you know which one is the exception? Do you know why?

- Think of someone who is on your list of people who are "least likely to love Jesus." Why are they on your list? Were *they...you?*
- Read Galatians 1:11-24. If you had been alive at the time, do you think you would have been *surprised* or *suspicious* upon hearing the news about Saul of Tarsus?
- If 1Timothy 1:13 was Paul's rap-sheet, how does your rap sheet read?
- Why do you think Paul talked so much about his past? (Acts 22:4-5, 26:9-11; Gal 1:13-15)
- What does it say to you that God's desire to "save sinners" includes the likes of "Saul of *Isis*?" (See Luke 1:10; 1Tim 2:4; 2 Peter 3:9)
- As we watch and hear about evil in the world, how should Paul's redemption story influence how you react? Pray?

Digging Deeper in God's Word

Lk 19:10; Mk 10:45; 2 Cor 5:15; 1 Tim 2:4; Gal 1:13-15; Acts 7:58-8:3; 9:1-6; 22:4-5; 26:9-11; Romans 2:4

* Pastor Steve McCracken.
Messages are accessible at www.gracepointfamily.com.
CD's are available by request.

