



## 63 A.D. | If This Life Can Change, Why Not Yours?

*<sup>12</sup>I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength to do his work. He considered me trustworthy and appointed me to serve him, <sup>13</sup>even though I used to blaspheme the name of Christ. In my insolence, I persecuted his people. But God had mercy on me because I did it in ignorance and unbelief. <sup>14</sup>Oh, how generous and gracious our Lord was! He filled me with the faith and love that come from Christ Jesus. <sup>15</sup>This is a trustworthy saying, and everyone should accept it: "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners"—and I am the worst of them all. <sup>16</sup>But God had mercy on me so that Christ Jesus could use me as a prime example of his great patience with even the worst sinners. Then others will realize that they, too, can believe in him and receive eternal life. <sup>17</sup>All honor and glory to God forever and ever! He is the eternal King, the unseen one who never dies; he alone is God. Amen.*

1 TIMOTHY 1:12-17 NLT

**The greatest gift of Christmas is the gift of transformation** (vs 15)

**Reflecting on our worst is critical to living at our best** (vs 16)

Saul's Glow Up: Acts 9:1-22

**Owning our sin brings freedom**

**Our past sin does not disqualify us from being saved & used by God** (vs 12)

**Our past salvation does not free us to live as we please**

PHILIPPIANS 3:4-14

**When we are transformed, our life becomes all about Jesus!** (vs 17)

It is not what we do that matters, but what a sovereign God chooses to do through us. God doesn't want our success; He wants us. He doesn't demand our achievements; He demands our obedience. The Kingdom of God is a kingdom of paradox, where through the ugly defeat of a cross, a holy God is utterly glorified. Victory comes through defeat; healing through brokenness; finding self through losing self. I realized that it was not my success God had used to enable me to help those in this prison...The real legacy of my life was my biggest failure—that I was an ex-convict. My greatest humiliation—being sent to prison—was the beginning of God's greatest use of my life; He chose the one thing in which I could not glory for His glory. *LOVING GOD* BY CHUCK COLSON