

Study Notes for 1 Timothy 1 (Part 2) :12-20

Read through **verses 12-20**.

Verses 12-14

- In these verses, the Apostle Paul speaks of his past before Christ. What words does he use to describe his attitude and behavior at that time?
- What do you think kept Paul from feeling guilt and regret over his past actions?
- How did God show Paul mercy?
- How did God show Paul grace?
- What examples can we see in how Paul looked at his past?
- What kinds of problems do you see people getting into when they dwell on the past in a negative way?

Verses 15-17

- Why do you think Paul calls the saying of **verse 15** trustworthy?
- What is the significance of Paul referring to himself as the foremost of sinners?
- Do you think Paul's statement lessens or diminishes his position as a leader? Why or why not?
- How is the Apostle Paul's life an example of God's mercy?
- Why do you think Paul wrote what he did in verse 17?

Verses 18-20

- What was the Apostle Paul suggesting about Timothy's responsibilities when he told him to "wage the good warfare"? Does that phrase make it sound like Timothy's job would be an easy one to deal with?
- Why is the exhortation to "hold on to faith" an important one?
- What is a clear (or good) conscience and why is it important?
- What are the causes of a bad conscience?
- What does it mean to shipwreck your faith?
- What is the most important thing you learned from this passage?