**Welcome Everyone!**

* We are Celebrating Jesus and His Salvation to all that Repent and Believe! –
* Christ is coming again!
* **Christmas riddle-** “You find me in December, but not in any other month. What am I? A. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. **Paul’s Testimony of God’s Grace -**1 Timothy 1:12 –16

* A. God’s Glory is to always be our praise and thanksgiving
* B. God’s Glory empowers the Believer that puts faith in God.
* C. God’s glory puts us to work!

1. **God’s Glory is to always be our praise and thanksgiving.**

* “And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord,”
* What is praise and thanksgiving?
* It is the showing of love and appreciation for His Blessings!
* **Believers live in praise and thanksgiving 24/7, so when we it is time for church and other events to pray and fellowship they are already flowing with praise and thanksgiving to God.**
* “Flowing with praise and thanksgiving”
* God’s Blessing was reference as what in Exodus 3:8? “And I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey. Provision and sweetness!

1. **God’s Glory empowers the Believer that puts faith in God.**

* “who hath enabled me “G1743”, for that he counted me faithful”
* The KJV translates Strong's G1743 in the following manner: be strong (3x), strengthen (2x), increase in strength (1x), enable (1x), be made strong (1x).
* God empowered Paul right away when Paul put faith in the Lord.
* There is a “Dual Enablement” in the Believer’s life.
* #1 Grace [God’s Work in us] and #2 Faith [Man’s Work in God’s Word].
* #1 Trust God’s Grace for Justification and #2 Obey God’s Word with *your* faith for Sanctification.

**Paul credits God for working in Him!**

* 2 Timothy 4:17 “Notwithstanding the Lord stood with me, and strengthened G1743 me; that by me the preaching might be fully known, and that all the Gentiles might hear: and I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion.
* Philippians 4:13 “I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth G1743 me.

**Paul challenges the Believer to practice/ exercise faith in God.**

* Ephesians 6:10 “Finally, my brethren, be strong G1743 in the Lord, and in the power of his might.
* Act 9:22 But Saul increased G1743 ➔ the more in strength, G1743 and confounded the Jews which dwelt at Damascus, proving that this is very Christ.
* The Only Reason we can exercise faith and come out victorious is because God is always faithful and Merciful.
* Psalms 62:6 “He only is my rock and my salvation: he is my defense; I shall not be moved.

**Ref. to God and Moses working together! Faith in God’s Grace.**

* Romans 4:20 He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong G1743 in faith, giving glory to God;

**Because God is Faithful The Believer puts faith in God always and forever.**

* King David said in Psalms 16:8 “ I have set the LORD always before me: because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.
* Luke says about King David in Acts 2:25 “For David speaketh concerning Him [God], I foresaw the Lord always before my face, for HE is on my right hand, that I should not be moved:

1. **Thirdly, God’s glory puts us to work!**

* putting me into the ministry;
* vv 13-14 I was a minster to sinfulness.
* Vv 15-16 Now I am a minster of Jesus Christ and His Salvation and Patience

1Ti 1:13-14 Who was before a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and injurious: but I obtained mercy, because I did it ignorantly in unbelief.-And the grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.

1Ti 1:15-16 This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief. Howbeit for this cause I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might shew forth all longsuffering, for a pattern to them which should hereafter believe on him to life everlasting.

**3 Takeaways:**

1. We should always live life how?
2. Why are we able to be victorious over sins?
3. What did Paul say God told him to do after he was saved?