



# TIME OUT DAILY DEVOTIONAL

Daily Words of Encouragement

FROM YOUR TNAZ PASTORAL LEADERS

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

Pastor Chris Sparling

*1 Timothy 1:12-17*

*"I thank him who has given me strength, Christ Jesus our Lord, because he judged me faithful, appointing me to his service, though formerly I was a blasphemer, persecutor, and insolent opponent. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with faith and love that are in Christ Jesus."*

Haven't we all been there at one time or another? To some degree, we have disqualified ourselves from the faith or the ministry itself because of our past. Could God really use someone like me given all that I have done against him? "But I received mercy..."

If there ever was one who rejected Jesus it was the apostle Paul. He was a persecutor, a murderer, a blasphemer, a person who dedicated his life to snuff out the flame of the gospel message that was spreading around the known world. But God showed great mercy on him and called him unto a new life, a life that he did not deserve, but no less received. To this he is so very thankful.

I want to testify to you this morning that I, like the many, have received mercy. Deserving not to be a part of God's family, yet I have been justified by the blood of Christ. God saw fit to save me by his grace through faith, and has enabled me to participate in his plan. Thanks be to God for the great love he has, and the great mercy he has shown.

It is my prayer this day that we may reflect upon God's great mercy and give thanks!

-Pastor Chris