

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

*The following questions help us engage with the sermon, music, and liturgy in this morning's worship service, and may be useful during personal devotions, group studies, and family worship.*

1. How does this passage challenge the idea that God's calling is based on our prior faithfulness rather than His sovereign grace?
2. Paul describes himself as a former blasphemer and persecutor who nevertheless received mercy. How does this reflect God's covenant faithfulness to save His people despite their sin and rebellion?
3. How does the phrase "I had acted ignorantly in unbelief" help us understand the relationship between human responsibility and God's sovereign mercy in salvation?
4. Describe how the words "with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus" highlight union with Christ as the source of both justification and sanctification?
5. Paul calls the gospel a "trustworthy saying" that Christ came to save sinners. Why is it important, to affirm that salvation is God's initiative rather than human cooperation?
6. How does one's salvation serve as an example for those who will believe later, and how does this reinforce the continuity of God's saving purposes throughout redemptive history?
7. How does the description of one who is "foremost" of sinners receiving God's mercy shape our assurance when we wrestle with guilt, doubt, or ongoing sin within the covenant community?
8. Why does a proper, heart-experienced understanding of "the King of the ages" and sovereign grace naturally lead to worship, and how can this passage shape our prayers and worship?