Romans 5:6-11

Saul Before Christ

- Saul watched as Stephen was stoned to death.
- Saul sought followers of "The Way" and brought them back to Jerusalem to be put on trial.
- Saul believed he was acting with great zeal on behalf of God.
- Being a Pharisee, Saul probably was there for the crucifixion and watched Jesus die.

Paul As A Christian

- Paul went on four missionary journeys and planted new churches everywhere he went.
- He wrote 13 or 14 letters with instructions for developing leadership, conducting worship, and handling various situations.
- Paul endured a hefty list of troubling times in the name of Christ.
- Paul's faith cost him his life.

Paul's Motivation

- Paul was able to reflect upon his life and see that he had fought the good fight, finished the race, and kept the faith.
- Paul wrote about the crown of righteousness that God would award him on the day of judgment.
- All who long for Christ's return, will receive a crown of righteousness.
- Regardless of the dirt in our lives, Jesus did all the work to reconcile us to God.

Conclusion

- It doesn't matter how much dirt we had before we came to know Christ.
- God refuted the lie that we have too much dirt by sending His Son to die on the cross, even while we were still His enemy.
- You do not have to remain an enemy of God.
- You need to trade your old identity in and become a child of God.