

Life Transformation! Acts 9:1-19 July 14, 2019

1. Your life before you meet Christ. (Acts 9:1-2, 13-14; 22:4; 26:9-11)

2. Your <u>encounter</u> with Christ.

- A <u>light</u> shines on your life. (Acts 9:3)
- You <u>stop</u> what you are doing. (22:7)
- You are convicted of <u>sin</u>. (9:4-5)
- You are in a place of <u>humility</u> and <u>surrender</u>. (9:6-7)

3. Your life <u>after</u> you meet Christ.

- New <u>relationships</u>. (9:17a)
- New <u>purpose</u>. (9:15; 22:14-15; 26:16, 18)
- New <u>challenges.</u> (9:16)
- New <u>power.</u> (9:17b)

Application:

1. Take some time this week and develop your story. Write a shorter version that can be shared in a few minutes and a longer version with more details. Read to your friends/ life group and see if they have some input for you. Be ready to share it!

2. Thank the Lord for the newness in your life and how He has transformed your life.



Life Group Questions/ Discussion Acts 9:1-9

<u>Main Thought of the Study</u> – This week we see the dramatic conversion of Saul on the road to Damascus. Every Christ-follower has a story to share. Are you ready to share your story?

<u>Introduction Discussion</u> – Have you ever observed a dramatic life transformation? Share with one another what you observed. Did you doubt that it was real? What impact did it have on your life to see the turn around?

Reflections from the Message

1. The salvation testimony is found in Acts 9, 22, 26. Read each of the accounts and identify any differences or similarities. Does our testimony change based on our audience? Why or why not?

2. Describe the life of Saul before he met Christ. (Acts 8:3; 9:1-2; 26:9-11; 22:4; Galatians 1:13, also compare Philippians 3:1-6.) What was his idea of religion before knowing Jesus? Share with one another your view of religion before coming to Christ. What kind of reputation did you have? (Acts 9:13)

3. A light suddenly shined on Saul. (Acts 9:3) Discuss the way the Lord shines His light upon us today. (John 8:12; Psalm 119:105; Matthew 5:14) Sometimes God stops us in our tracks. Share examples of things that could happen that shake us and brings us to our knees. (Acts 22:7)

4. Discuss the question that Jesus asks Saul. (Acts 9:4; 26:14) What did Saul need to realize? Why would this question get his attention? Our behavior does matter to Jesus. Share the pain our sin causes the Lord. (Ephesians 4:30) Our "salvation" story is always a story of humility. Why or why not? Was this true for you? Discuss the evidence we have of Saul being humbled. (Acts 9:8-9)

5. The third part of Saul's story – (Before He knew Jesus, how he met Jesus and now after he met Jesus) How did things change for Saul? (Acts 9:17) How did Ananias address Saul? What would be the new mission for Saul's life? (Acts 9:15; 22:15; 26:16-18)

Digging Deeper – Review the transformation of Saul/ Paul described in Philippians 3:1-10. What did he have to learn? Which part of his story do you relate to the most?

Application:

1. Write out your story. Include your life before you met Christ, how you met Him and how your life changed since you met Christ. Share it with one another to see if it is clear.

2. Pray for opportunities to share your story this week.

3. Pray for the persecuted Christ–followers around the world that are suffering for the faith in Christ. (Acts 9:16)