



WITNESS

Jesus through the eyes of His followers

WEEK 10 - THE CALLING OF SAUL OVERVIEW

The final disciple of Jesus we will explore is one who may have never met him in person: Saul, later known as the Apostle Paul. Beginning his journey as a hater and persecutor of Christ-followers, Paul would go on to be a leading voice in the Church bringing the gospel of Jesus to the Gentiles and establishing Churches across the Roman world. What could have changed such a zealous Pharisee into an apostle zealous for the gospel? And what does the transformation of Paul's life trajectory teach us about the grace God has for the broken?

Go, for Saul is my chosen instrument to take my message to the Gentiles and to kings, as well as to the people of Israel. And I will show him how much he must suffer for my name's sake.

Acts 9:15-16

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Read [Acts 8:1-3](#) and [Acts 26:10-11](#). How would you describe the zeal of Saul/Paul? Why did Saul feel justified in his actions?
2. Read [Acts 9:1-9](#).
 - a. What do you think was going through Paul's mind during the encounter with Jesus and for three days afterwards? (see also [Ezekiel 1:28](#))
 - b. Read [Acts 9:10-19](#). What do you think was going through Ananias' mind?
 - c. What does this passage tell us about the person of Jesus? And what does it tell us about ourselves?
3. Barry said that Jesus does not always change your identity, sometimes he just redirects it.
 - a. Explain what he means by that in regards to Paul.
 - b. Have you ever experienced a "redirection" in your life? Describe what happened.
 - c. Will you let Jesus change your direction? What would that look like in your life? How would you know if he is redirecting you?
4. Questions to help us engage our hearts and minds each week of this series:
 - a. **How do I relate to the disciple?** What part of Paul's story do you relate to? Do you see any part of yourself in him? Can you relate to the way he reacts to certain things? Do you identify with him in any way?
 - b. **How did I encounter Jesus?**
 - c. **What is God's invitation to me today?**

RESOURCES

Watch *The Chosen*, free online, [here](#).

Paul: A Biography, by N.T. Wright