

Lesson #4-30

Saul Discovers the Good News

Acts 9:1-19



Key Verse:

[Saul] asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting."

Acts 9:5

The Point:

God sometimes calls the most unlikely people to do the work of spreading the gospel.

Unit Theme (April 1—April 22):

Good News Spreads

Walk It Out

Taking a walk through the story of Saul's conversion.

Supplies:

> Bibles or printed copies of the passage

Instructions:

- 1. Identify four different areas of your meeting space as the following locations in this story: Jerusalem, road to Damascus, Damascus, and Judas' house. Make sure there is enough room to move as a group from place to place. If able, move this activity outside.
- 2. Invite participants to open their Bibles to Acts 9:1-19.

- 3. Have the group stand together in the starting location (Jerusalem) and read collectively verses 1-2.
- 4. Walk to the next location, the "road to Damascus" and read collectively verses 3-9.
- 5. Move to "Damascus" and read collectively verses 10-16.
- 6. Finally, move to "Judas' house" and read collectively verses 17-19.
- 7. Afterwards, find a place to sit down and process the story with the following questions:

Walk It Out (Cont.)

Discussion Questions:

- Who was Saul? [A Jewish man passionate about Jewish law]
- Why was he persecuting Christians? [Jewish leaders at the time were trying to squelch the spread of Christianity. They believed early Christians to be breaking Jewish law and therefore needed to be persecuted and punished. Saul sent men and women to prison and even witnessed the stoning of Stephen, the first Christian martyr.]
- What happened to stop Saul and initiate a change of heart? [He was stopped by a blinding light on the road to Damascus and heard the voice of Jesus.]
- What was Ananias' reaction when God told him to go see Saul, the persecutor of Christians? [Ananias was hesitant and afraid because of what he knew of Saul.] What might your reaction have been?
- What eventually happened to Saul? [Ananias prayed over Saul, and he regained his sight and a was baptized.]
- Does anyone know anything else about who Saul became? If participants know the story of Paul, let them share. If not, share a few details about who Saul would become: Paul, the greatest missionary and author of the majority of the New Testament letters.
- Why do you think God chose Saul to become a defender of Christianity?



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