

How Could God Save Saul?

Date: 3/20/16

Read Together

Read the Scripture and overview below before your Life Group meets.

Scripture passage: Acts 9

The entire history of the world was changed as a result of the events in Acts 9. A devout Jew who hated Christ and His followers, Saul received incomprehensible grace and mercy that day on the Damascus Road. How could such unconditional love be given to one so vile? How could a holy and just God find any room for forgiveness in the heart of such a wretched soul? Isaiah 55:8 reminds us plainly that, “My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord” (Isaiah 55:8). It is impossible to figure out God and His ways, so we must trust His sovereign hand and His loving heart. This act of forgiveness bestowed on Saul by God through His Son, Jesus, became a refrain that the world would forever sing—“Amazing grace how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me. I once was lost but now I’m found, was blind, but now, I see.”

Pray Together

Use the first few minutes of your lesson to lead your group in a focused prayer time.

- **Praise** God for Jesus – the Grace-giver, the Merciful Savior, the Lover of our Souls.
- **Repent** from taking God’s grace for granted.
- **Ask** the Holy Spirit to help you gain a deeper understanding of His unconditional love and grace.
- **Yield** to the Spirit and trust God to help you tell others about His love, mercy, and grace.

Discuss Together

Use these questions to engage in an informative and impactful discussion with your Life Group.

- Share with your group a time when you doubted God.
- Describe the faithfulness of God. Discuss times when you have experienced God’s faithfulness even in the midst of uncertain circumstances.

Read Acts 9:1-4.

- Discuss Saul, the Antagonist.
 - What was he like? Who did he associate with? (See Acts 7:58, 8:1-3, 1 Timothy 1:13)
 - What was his pedigree? (See Philippians 3:4-6)
- Have you ever encountered someone who despised Christians? What were your dealings with this person like?
- What encouragement do you gain from these verses when you face persecution because of your faith in Jesus Christ? (Matthew 5:10-12, Acts 5:41, Romans 8:17, 2 Corinthians 1:7, Philippians 3:10-11, 1 Peter 2:20, 3:14, 5:10)



Warren Baptist Church or Warren Grovetown



WarrenBaptist_Augusta

Read Acts 9:4-9.

- Discuss Jesus the Evangelist.
 - Jesus' confrontation with Saul
 - In the physical realm, Saul was walking in the light, but he was spiritually dead. Talk about the blinding light on the road to Damascus that caused Saul to surrender.
 - How did Jesus confront you with the Gospel? Share your story with your group.
 - The conversion of Saul (See acts 4:12, John 15:12-15)
 - For his entire life Saul "kicked against" the Lord. What evidence do you see in Acts 9:4-9 that indicates Saul is no longer resisting Jesus?
 - Is there some area in your life where you are "kicking against" God? What do you need to do to stop resisting?
 - The consecration of Saul unto the Lord (See Saul's declaration in Philippians 3:4-12).
- When you share the Gospel with someone, do you remember that you are not the evangelist, but that Jesus always is? What security do you find in this truth?

Read Acts 9:10-16

- Discuss Ananias the Protagonist.
 - What was Ananias' initial response to Jesus when He told him to go find Saul?
 - How does this remind you of your own doubts when confronted with the opportunity to step out in faith and trust God for the outcome?
 - What was Ananias' ultimate response?
 - What was the outcome?
- Read 1 Timothy 1:12-16 and discuss the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ in forgiving all sinners and bringing them into the Kingdom. What does this teach you about the faithfulness of God?

Do Life Together

These questions are meant to encourage you to apply spiritual truth and live on mission for Jesus. It is your Life Group leader's responsibility to challenge you and hold you accountable to taking steps of growth and faith. Take these questions to heart. Allow the Holy Spirit to prompt you to grow in your role as a disciple and ultimately, a disciple-maker.

- Will you boldly pray and ask God to place someone in your life this week who needs to hear about the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and share it with them?



Warren Baptist Church or Warren Grovetown



WarrenBaptist_Augusta