

The Way of the Early Church, Part 5: Saul's Conversion

Remember, small groups are primarily for growing closer relationships with other believers. We can learn wonderful things in this environment but keep relationships first.

- Make sure everyone knows each other's names. Have everyone share a little about themselves and how life is going right now.
- **The Way of the Early Church**
 - In this series we unlock several powerful eternal principles in order to see God do mighty things!
- **This Week: Saul's Conversion**
- Remember Saul? **Acts 8:1-3**
- Today: God can change anyone's life! Even Saul!
 - One Way of the Early Church: Enemies regularly became friends in the Lord!
- My thoughts, please try not to get mad. ☺
 - Saul was a good guy really, just pointed in the wrong direction.
 - He was zealous for God, ambitious, smart, determined and tenacious.
 - But, he thought faith in Christ was a destructive heresy...
 - This world is full of people like that, good people really, just pointed in the wrong direction.
 - Some are thugs, addicts, or criminals.
 - Some are skeptics and unbelievers.
 - Some are intellectuals, professionals, or business people.
 - Some have done really bad things...like Saul.
 - It doesn't matter who you are or what you've done, God loves you and has a plan for your life...just like Saul.
 - To say that you are too far gone is just a lie you believe or an excuse.
- The Conversion of the Apostle Paul.
- **Acts 9:1-9**
 - Saul was quite traumatized by all of this. Some conversions are like that.
 - What was your conversion like? Tell the story if you wish.
 - The best conversion is when you just choose to believe in Jesus by faith.
 - Thomas had a chance, but he missed it. **John 20:24-29**
 - Don't feel bad for taking that blessing!! I mean that.
- Enter Ananias. **Acts 9:10-19**
 - God trusted Ananias with a mighty task.
 - What can God trust you with? Do not despise small beginnings.
- Saul got to work! **Acts 9:20-22**
 - Yeah boy!! Eventual result was a time of peace! **Acts 9:31**
- So, in the early church:
 - Enemies became friends.
 - Saul the Destroyer was remade into Paul the Apostle!
 - God called even the worst of sinners.
 - **1 Timothy 1:15-16**
 - If you have not yet, it's time to make the commitment to the One who died for you.
 - You are not too far gone. You are not alone. You need to give your life to Christ.
 - God could trust the believers with mighty tasks.
 - For the Christian, can God trust you with a new believer?
 - Can He trust you to greet someone? Can He trust you to pray for them? Can He trust you to engage in worship? Can He trust you to bear fruit for the Kingdom?
 - Jesus believes in you, and I believe in you too!!
- Pray for each other before you finish up!