

SERIES OVERVIEW

The book of Acts tells the story of the gospel advancing from Jerusalem to the ends of the earth. As we walk through this missional narrative together, our prayer is that God would breathe fresh wind into our sails—motivating and inspiring us to join Him in the work He’s still doing today.

[Acts Video Overview](#)

CONTEXT

In Acts 9:1-19, Saul is on a mission to persecute Christians when he is struck blind by a blinding light and hears the voice of the risen Jesus. Afterward, a disciple named Ananias is sent by God to heal Saul's blindness and fill him with the Holy Spirit.

THE BIG IDEA

No is beyond the grace of God. Even his fiercest enemies can be saved and used as instruments for his glory.

SCRIPTURE: Acts 9:1-19

1 But Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest 2 and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem.

3 Now as he went on his way, he approached Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven shone around him. 4 And falling to the ground, he heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?” 5 And he said, “Who are you, Lord?” And he said, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. 6 But rise and enter the city, and you will be told what

SCRIPTURE CONTINUED: you are to do.”

7 The men who were traveling with him stood speechless, hearing the voice but seeing no one. 8 Saul rose from the ground, and although his eyes were opened, he saw nothing. So they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. 9 And for three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank. 10 Now there was a disciple at Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, “Ananias.” And he said, “Here I am, Lord.” 11 And the Lord said to him, “Rise and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul, for behold, he is praying, 12 and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.” 13 But Ananias answered, “Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints at Jerusalem. 14 And here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on your name.” 15 But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel. 16 For I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.” 17 So Ananias departed and entered the house. And laying his hands on him he said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus who appeared to you on the road by which you came has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” 18 And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he rose and was baptized; 19 and taking food, he was strengthened.

THE BOOK OF ACTS

A CROSSPOINT CITY
SERMON SERIES

DISCUSSION GUIDE

ICE BREAKER

What season of life would you relive and which would you skip entirely?

GROUP DISCUSSION

(Refer to **Week 19** of your ACTS Journal.)

Read Acts 9:1-19 as a group.

What does the story of Saul's conversion tell us about who Jesus is and His power?

Who is that person in your life that is hard for you to believe that God can save them and/or they would ever surrender to Him? How does this story impact your hope for this person?

The point of Saul's persecution of Christians is, *where the Gospel goes, persecution follows*. How does Jesus' words in John 15:18-20 reinforce this point?

Compare Ananias' words in verse 10 to Isaiah 6:8. What makes it hard for you to pre-decide to listen and obey Jesus?

Does God speak to us today and have you told him you are available?

How does verse 15 help calm Ananias' legitimate fears when the Lord calls Saul his "chosen instrument"?

Read 2 Corinthians 5:7 and discuss this quote from the sermon, "If you need all the details before you do what God is asking you to do, you are not walking by faith."

Notice in verses 17-19 that Ananias obeys God immediately. Share a time when you practiced immediate obedience with God and how is delayed obedience – disobedience?

Discussion continued:

What is the significance of Ananias saying "Brother Saul" in verse 17? What can we learn from Ananias in how we welcome those far from God instead of condemning them?

What is one thing that stood out to you from the sermon and why do you think God wants you to remember this truth?

PRAYER (In gender based groups)

*Share praises, answered prayers, and prayer requests. Pray for your ONE & others in your life that seem beyond the reach of Jesus.

Closing Prayer.

(come back together as a group)

God, thank you that you pursued us even though we were your enemy. God, give us the faith and courage to immediately obey you even when we don't have the details. Jesus we trust you & pray in the power of your name, amen.



Info & Registration [HERE](#)

Available Dates: Aug. 28/29, Sept. 11/12,
Oct. 23/24, Nov. 6/7