



DISCUSSION GUIDE

Wk 20: Persecutor To Preacher

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.

To review up to Acts 9, watch 0:00- 7:10.

[Book of Acts Video Overview](#)

CONTEXT: Acts 9:19-31.

After his conversion, Saul begins to preach boldly in the name of Jesus, causing amazement and confusion among those who knew him as a persecutor of Christians. Despite threats on his life, Saul is protected by the disciples and continues to grow stronger in his faith, eventually being sent to Tarsus for safety.

THE BIG IDEA

When Jesus transforms a life, He doesn't just forgive the past—He redirects the future, turning even the fiercest opponent into a fearless proclaimer of the gospel.

ICE BREAKER

Married Groups-discuss going to a Connected Marriage Workshop as a group and get signed up. Couples have loved The Connected Workshops!

*Share a time when following Jesus felt like more than you signed up for.

SCRIPTURE: Acts 9:19-31

19 and taking food, he was strengthened. For some days he was with the disciples at Damascus. 20 And immediately he proclaimed Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God." 21 And all who heard him were amazed & said, "Is not this the man who made havoc in Jerusalem of those who called upon this name? And has he not come here for this purpose, to bring them bound before the chief priests?" 22 But Saul increased all the more in strength, and confounded the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus was the Christ. 23 When many days had passed, the Jew plotted to kill him, 24 but their plot became known to Saul. They were watching the gates day and night in order to kill him, 25 but his disciples took him by night and let him down through an opening in the wall, lowering him in a basket. 26 And when he had come to Jerusalem, he attempted to join the disciples. And they were all afraid of him, for they did not believe that he was a disciple. 27 But Barnabas took him & brought him to the apostles & declared to them how on the road he had seen the Lord, who spoke to him & how at Damascus he had preached boldly in the name of Jesus. 28 So he went in & out among them at Jerusalem, preaching boldly in the name of the Lord. 29 And he spoke & disputed against the Hellenists. But they were seeking to kill him. 30 And when the brothers learned this, they brought him down to Caesarea and sent him off to Tarsus. 31 So the church throughout all Judea & Galilee & Samaria had peace & was being built up. And walking in the fear of the Lord & in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, it multiplied.

THE BOOK OF ACTS

A CROSSPOINT CITY
SERMON SERIES

DISCUSSION GUIDE

GROUP DISCUSSION

(Refer to **Week 20** of your ACTS Journal.)

Watch the [Book of Acts Video Overview](#) from 0:00-7:10 as a refresher to our Acts Series.

Read Acts 9:19-31 as a group.

For context, review Acts 9:1-18 and have someone give a brief summary. How do the events in the first 18 verses impact the significance of verses 19-31?

We learn in verse 20 that Saul (Paul) told people about Jesus shortly after his time with the disciples and his conversion. Did you tell people about Jesus more as a new believer or years after your conversion? Why do you think this is?

How did the resistance of the Jews and even the disciples make Saul more resilient? Share a time in your life when your faith or morals faced resistance and you became more resilient and even stronger in your convictions.

We learn in verse 27 that Barnabas truly had Saul's back and told the disciples about his conversion and that he was now on Team Jesus. Why do you think the disciples were hesitant about what Saul was saying and doing? Share a time in your life that you judged someone because of their past but Jesus had changed them from the inside out.

How is Crosspoint City similar to the early church described in vs. 31 and what areas do we need to improve? (peace, being built up, comforted by Spirit, multiplying)

Discussion continued:

How has your calling and walk with Christ been formed by your Connect Group and other Christ followers? (verse 19)

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. Thank God for the people who shared the Gospel with you and made an impact in your spiritual growth.



Info & Registration [HERE](#)

Space available

Sept. 11/12 | Oct. 23/24 | Nov. 6/7