

LIFE APP

July 11-12, 2020

VACATION

DAMASCUS

Acts 9:3-6: As he journeyed he came near Damascus, and suddenly a light shone around him from heaven. Then he fell to the ground, and heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?” And he said, “Who are You, Lord?” “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting,” he replied. “Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do.”

LIFE GROUP / PERSONAL STUDY:

Saul was on a mission. He was so zealous in his Jewish beliefs that he was willing to travel 150 miles to Damascus to bring Christians back in chains. On that journey, Saul got the call from God that changed his life. As a result of Saul’s cooperation, he experienced an incredible conversion that transformed him from a persecutor of Christians to a preacher for Christ.

Read Acts 9:1-9

1A) Describe Saul’s actions and intentions as expressed in verse 1.

1B) Next to the map, write out the conversation that Saul had with Jesus and describe Saul’s condition afterwards.



Read Acts 9: 10-19

2A) PERSONAL: It is not always easy to love others, especially when we are afraid of them or find them untrustworthy. Think about a time when you were called to treat someone like this with love. Were you blessed by the exchange? How so?

2B) What blessings came from interaction of Saul and Ananias?

3) Saul/Paul refers to his experience on the road to Damascus as the start of his new life in Christ in the following verses. Record his testimony next to each one.

1 Corinthians 9:1

1 Corinthians 15:8

Galatians 1:15-16

4) PERSONAL: Record your personal testimony when you came to know Christ. If you are not yet in a relationship with Jesus, write out a prayer expressing your desire to know Him better and for Him to be a guiding force in your life.

5) What do you learn from the following verses?

Ephesians 2:8-10 **CALL**

Romans 10:9-13 **COOPERATION**

2 Corinthians 5:17-19 **CONVERSION**

Read Acts 9:20-27:

6) Briefly describe who Saul stayed with, what he spent his time doing, and some of the challenges he faced.

7) PERSONAL: How is your faith impacted by this incredible story and drastic conversion of Saul, a Jewish Pharisee, to Paul, a committed Christ follower?

ACT: In the sermon, it was mentioned that sometimes God flexes His power through His patience. Our plans aren't always God's plans. There are times when we see a calling from God as a derailment in our personal agenda. God may not break onto the scene in a spectacular manner, like he did with Saul. God may patiently wait for you to cooperate with Him and His intentions for your life. Ask yourself: Am I doing good things or am I doing God things? Spend time in prayer, allow yourself to silently wait for God's direction. God wants to have the rightful place as the driver in your life.

Daily Devotional: It always helps to look at the context of the passage. Then try to answer the following questions about the passage. Who is involved? What is going on? Where is the action taking place? When? How can this concept apply to my life? Why is it important? Also look for Commands, Warnings, and Examples to follow or not to follow.

- Every day this week read about the benefits of being faithful to God and His faithfulness to you.

Monday:

Hebrews 11:1 NLT

Faith shows the reality of what we hope for; it is the evidence of things we cannot see.

Tuesday:

Proverbs 2:7-8 NLT

He grants a treasure of common sense to the honest. He is a shield to those who walk with integrity. He guards the paths of the just and protects those who are faithful to him.

Wednesday:

2 Thessalonians 3:3 NIV

But the Lord is faithful, and he will strengthen you and protect you from the evil one.

Thursday:

Lamentations 3:22-23 NIV

Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

Friday:

Galatians 5:22-23 NLT

But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things!

Saturday:

2 Timothy 2:13 NLT

If we are unfaithful, he remains faithful, for he cannot deny who he is.

Sunday:

Revelation 2:10 NIV

Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. I tell you, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for ten days. Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you life as your victor's crown.

