

Now What? When you are chosen...

Acts 9:1-19

THE BIG IDEA:

In this study, we are looking at a time when Jesus intervenes in the lives of two people. We will look at what we might learn and be able to apply in our lives.

OPENING:

Read Acts 9:1-19 aloud. Take note of the situation the believers are in. What do you think the Christians are thinking and feeling about the Roman and religious leaders? How do you think they might be praying?

DIGGING DEEPER:

Saul is having a theophany (an encounter with the manifested Presence of God). Compare his encounter with that of Moses in Exodus 3:1-17. What similarities do you see? Have you ever had a surprise visitation? Can you share about that?

This encounter with Jesus created a “paradigm shift” for Saul. It changed his understanding of reality. How many times does Paul refer to this encounter? And for what reason? Reflect on your life and identify any shifts you have experienced.

How do Jesus’ words in verses 4-5 speak to how we treat other believers? What has Lord chosen Ananias and Saul to do? How did each respond to the call?

What is the difference between the fear of Ananias and the fear of Saul? Share about a time when the Lord clearly called you to serve Him in some way. What was your response? How did it turn out?

PUTTING IT TO WORK:

Looking at verses 4-5, Jesus applies what we do to others as we have done to Him (Matt 25:40). Think about Him saying to us: I am Jesus...about whom you are gossiping; whom you resent; whom you will not forgive; whom you have slandered; whom you ignore; whom you avoid; whom you _____? Spend some time in prayer about this.

In this passage we can see that the Lord is always at work and invites His followers into what He is doing. Ask the Spirit to reveal to you how He is at work in your life and how you might serve Him in what He is doing.

PRAYER REQUESTS