



### **Bridge Church Home Groups Questions**

Series: Unstoppable Part 2 – A Study in Acts

Message: The Ministry of Opening Doors

Pastor Ryan Pedde

Read Acts 9:19b-31 then use the following questions to kick-start your discussion:

1. After his miraculous conversion, Saul is a completely changed person. He goes from persecuting the believers to becoming one of the persecuted himself.
  - a. Have you ever seen a dramatic change in yourself or another person after accepting Christ? What was that like?
  - b. Were the people around you, or around the person you are thinking of, initially skeptical of the change? Why do you think that is often the case?
2. When Saul came to the Apostles in Jerusalem, they were skeptical and afraid of him. When no one believed in him, Barnabas stood in the gap for Saul. Re-read verse 27.
  - a. Does anything strike you about this verse?
  - b. What do you think motivated Barnabas? What does this say about him?
3. Barnabas means “son of encouragement.” Earlier in Acts he generously donated funds from the sale of his land to the Christian movement. In today’s passage, Barnabas is generous with his encouragement. How have you seen these kinds of encouragement at work in the church and your life today?
4. Jesus is the “True and Better Barnabas.” Stuck in our sin, Jesus stood in the gap, laid down His life to pay our debt, and now vouches for us before the Father. The ministry of Barnabas-encouragement is a Christ-like ministry.
  - a. Brainstorm as a group – Are there people in your lives who need encouragement, mentorship, to be vouched for, or feel truly seen?
  - b. Take some time to pray for the people you identify together and make a plan to offer the encouragement of Jesus in their lives.