



## An Unlikely Convert

November 14, 2021

Pastor Tyler Wittmer

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### Announcements

Welcome to Center Point Church! There are exciting things happening at our church and hope you feel welcome. We love you and are glad you joined us today.

**Child Care** is available for children up to age 5. We love kids so you are welcome to keep them in the service with you or drop them off in the nursery.

**Today November 14<sup>th</sup>**, membership business meeting after church. Anyone can attend.

**Are you ready to serve?** We can use your help. We have immediate needs in child care. Of course there are other areas to serve as well so if interested see a pastor or elder.

**Women's Advent study.**



**Women's ADVENT Study**

Monday's Dec. 6, 13, 20

Dinner and books provided

See Teresa or Meg to sign up

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### Jonah 2:9

...Salvation belongs to the Lord!

### Acts 9:1-31

<sup>1</sup> But Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest <sup>2</sup> 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. <sup>3</sup> Now as he went on his way, he approached Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven shone around him. <sup>4</sup> And falling to the ground, he heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?" <sup>5</sup> And he said, "Who are you, Lord?" And he said, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. <sup>6</sup> But rise and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." <sup>7</sup> The men who were traveling with him stood speechless, hearing the voice but seeing no one. <sup>8</sup> 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. <sup>9</sup> And for three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

<sup>10</sup> 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." <sup>11</sup> 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, <sup>12</sup> 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." <sup>13</sup> But

Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints at Jerusalem.<sup>14</sup> And here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on your name."<sup>15</sup> 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.<sup>16</sup> For I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name."<sup>17</sup> 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."<sup>18</sup> And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he rose and was baptized;<sup>19</sup> and taking food, he was strengthened. For some days he was with the disciples at Damascus.

<sup>20</sup> And immediately he proclaimed Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God."<sup>21</sup> And all who heard him were amazed and 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?"<sup>22</sup> But Saul increased all the more in strength, and confounded the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus was the Christ.

<sup>23</sup> When many days had passed, the Jews plotted to kill him,<sup>24</sup> but their plot became known to Saul. They were watching the gates day and night in order to kill him,<sup>25</sup> but his disciples took him by night and let him down through an opening in the wall, lowering him in a basket.

<sup>26</sup> 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.<sup>27</sup> But Barnabas took him and brought him to the apostles and declared to them how on the road he had seen the Lord, who spoke to him, and how at Damascus he had preached boldly in the name of Jesus.<sup>28</sup> So he went in and out among them at Jerusalem, preaching boldly in the name of the Lord.<sup>29</sup> And he spoke and disputed against the Hellenists. But they were seeking to kill him.<sup>30</sup> And when the brothers learned this, they brought him down to Caesarea and sent him off to Tarsus.

<sup>31</sup> So the church throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria had peace and was being built up. And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, it multiplied.

## **1. Paul's Conversion (vs. 1-17)**

## **2. Paul's Calling (vs. 18-31)**

Chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the gentiles and kings and the children of Israel...

### **Galatians 1:11-17**

<sup>11</sup> For I would have you know, brothers, that the gospel that was preached by me is not man's gospel.<sup>12</sup> For I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ.<sup>13</sup> For you have heard of my former life in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God violently and tried to destroy it.<sup>14</sup> And I was advancing in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my people, so extremely zealous was I for the traditions of my fathers.<sup>15</sup> But when he who had set me apart before I was born, and who called me by his grace,<sup>16</sup> was pleased to reveal

his Son to me, in order that I might preach him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately consult with anyone; <sup>17</sup> nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me, but I went away into Arabia, and returned again to Damascus.

## **Gospel Application**

**We need God's Grace**

### **Martin Luther**

“When I look at myself, I don’t see how I can be saved. But when I look at Christ, I don’t see how I can be lost.”

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### **Church Staff**

Tyler Wittmer – Elder, Lead Pastor

Eric Hogarth – Elder

Bill Sherrard – Elder

L J Todd – Elder

Darren Varnado – Elder

Tim Wright – Elder