

WEEK FOUR



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WEEKLY READING

Read: Acts 9

Read ahead for next week: Read Acts 10-11

GETTING STARTED

Goals for this session: To better understand that no one is unreachable and our role is sharing Jesus with others.

Missed the sermon? Watch it at www.youtube.com/venturamissionary

Break the Ice: Describe a time where your first encounter with someone was not an accurate representation of their personality or character. Looking back, perhaps you misjudged or jumped to a conclusion based on their appearance or a circumstance. OR, describe a time when someone misjudged who you are for the same reasons.

GROUP DISCUSSION

- 1. On Sunday, Pastor Doug said that no one is too unreachable for Jesus. Please share your testimony of how Jesus reached you.
- 2. Read Ananias' response to Jesus' instructions in **Acts 9:13-14**. How do you think you would have responded if you were Ananias? Do you tend to give people second chances easily. Or is it hard for you to look past people's reputations? Explain.
- 3. Read what Jesus say to Ananias about Saul in **Acts 9:16**, With that in mind, please read Saul describe some of his suffering in **2 Corinthians 1:8-9** and **2 Corinthians 11:23-29**. Why do you think that following Jesus was so often accompanied by suffering and hardship?
- 4. Read Acts 9:20-22. Often we are reluctant to boldly share Jesus with others, fearing humiliation, rejection, or claiming that we don't know enough about the Bible. How does it encourage you that Saul started to share Jesus "at once?"
- 5. Back in Acts 4:16, Barnabas is called the "son of encouragement." How do you see him living out that title in Acts 9:26-27?
- 6. When you think of people in your life who are far from Jesus, what names come to mind? During prayer time, have someone in the group take a moment to pray for those names.



PRAY

Pray for each other: Have the group leader or a volunteer from the group pray for the people you identified in the last discussion question as far form Jesus. Also have them pray that God would open up opportunities for you to share what Jesus is doing in your life and share the gospel with them.

Pray on your own: Every day this week, pray that God would help you apply Sunday's message that "no one is too unreachable for Jesus" and that God would help you see opportunities to fulfill your role in expanding the kingdom.

ACTION STEPS

Look for someone to encourage this week. Be prepared to share your experience next week.

NOTES

