



Being an Instrument in God's Hands: A 10-Question Discipleship Study

This discipleship lesson explores what it means to be chosen, surrendered, empowered through weakness, and steadfast as an instrument in God's hands.

The Surrendered Instrument

Passage: Acts 9:1–19 (Saul's Conversion and Ananias's Obedience)

God uses both the dramatic convert and the quiet, faithful servant.

1. Surrendering the Reins

In verses 3–6, Saul is stopped in his tracks and immediately asks, *"Who are You, Lord?"* and *"What shall I do?"*

- *Question:* What ambitions, plans, or personal agendas must you lay down before Christ can take full ownership of your life as His instrument?

2. The Courage of the Available Servant

Ananias initially hesitated when God told him to go to Saul because of Saul's violent reputation (vv. 13–14), yet God called Saul *"a chosen instrument of mine"* (v. 15).

- *Question:* Is there an assignment, conversation, or person God is prompting you toward that you are resisting out of fear, discomfort, or prejudice? What would obedience look like this week?

3. Restored Vision for Kingdom Purpose

Saul spent three days blind before something like scales fell from his eyes, after which he was baptized and filled with the Holy Spirit (vv. 17–19).

- *Question:* How has encountering Jesus transformed the way you see your purpose, your relationships, and the people around you?

The Eager Instrument

Passage: Romans 1:14–17 (Paul's Obligation and Eagerness for the Gospel)

A ready instrument recognizes both its debt of grace and the power of its message.

4. The Weight of Gospel Stewardship

In verse 14, Paul declares himself under obligation (a debtor) to Greeks and barbarians, the wise and the foolish alike.



- *Question:* When you look at the unreached or spiritually hurting people in your everyday sphere (coworkers, neighbors, family), do you feel an obligation of love to share what you have freely received? Why or why not?

5. Unashamed Confidence

Paul writes in verse 16: *“For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes.”*

- *Question:* In what settings are you most tempted to shrink back or feel hesitant about sharing your faith, and how does remembering the gospel's power change that perspective?

6. Living by Faith Alone

Verse 17 reminds us that *“the righteous shall live by faith.”*

- *Question:* Are you currently serving God out of self-reliance and performance, or out of daily dependence on His righteousness and grace?

The Broken Instrument

Passage: 2 Corinthians 12:6–10 (Boasting in Weakness and God’s Sufficient Grace)

God’s power does not require human perfection—it requires human humility.

7. The Purpose of the Thorn

Paul was given a "thorn in the flesh" to keep him from becoming conceited after receiving profound revelations (v. 7).

- *Question:* Has God allowed a persistent limitation, trial, or weakness in your life? How might He be using that very struggle to protect you from pride and keep you reliant on Him?

8. Sufficiency Over Circumstance

The Lord answered Paul’s prayers for relief by saying: *“My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness”* (v. 9).

- *Question:* How does resting in the reality that God's grace is *enough* reshape how you pray about the difficulties you cannot change?

The Focused Instrument

Passage: Proverbs 4:25–27 (Fixing Your Eyes and Guarding Your Path)

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An instrument remains useful only as long as it stays calibrated and untainted by compromise.

9. Guarding Against Distraction

Verse 25 commands: *"Let your eyes look directly forward, and your gaze be straight before you."*

- *Question:* What secondary pursuits, digital distractions, or cultural noises are currently competing for your spiritual focus?

10. Pondering the Path

Verses 26–27 urge: *"Ponder the path of your feet; then all your ways will be sure. Do not swerve to the right or to the left; turn your foot away from evil."*

- *Question:* If you conduct an honest audit of your daily habits, media consumption, and steps, are they keeping you sharp and ready for God's use, or drifting into compromise? What adjustment is needed today?

Suggested Prayer for Discipleship Pairs

"Lord, make me a clean, willing, and steadfast instrument in Your hands. Strip away my self-reliance and fear, teach me to rejoice in Your all-sufficient grace in my weakness, and keep my eyes fixed firmly on Christ so I may run the path You have marked out for me. Amen."