

## **Small Group Study Questions**

Week 16

Acts 9:19-31 (NASB 1995)

19 and he took food and was strengthened.

Now for several days he was with the disciples who were at Damascus, 20 and immediately he *began* to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God." 21 All those hearing him continued to be amazed, and were saying, "Is this not he who in Jerusalem destroyed those who called on this name, and *who* had come here for the purpose of bringing them bound before the chief priests?" 22 But Saul kept increasing in strength and confounding the Jews who lived at Damascus by proving that this *Jesus* is the Christ.

23 When many days had elapsed, the Jews plotted together to do away with him, 24 but their plot became known to Saul. They were also watching the gates day and night so that they might put him to death; 25 but his disciples took him by night and let him down through *an opening in* the wall, lowering him in a large basket.

26 When he came to Jerusalem, he was trying to associate with the disciples; but they were all afraid of him, not believing that he was a disciple. 27 But Barnabas took hold of him and brought him to the apostles and described to them how he had seen the Lord on the road, and that He had talked to him, and how at Damascus he had spoken out boldly in the name of Jesus. 28 And he was with them, moving about freely in Jerusalem, speaking out boldly in the name of the Lord. 29 And he was talking and arguing with the Hellenistic *Jews*; but they were attempting to put him to death. 30 But when the brethren learned *of it*, they brought him down to Caesarea and sent him away to Tarsus.

31 So the church throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria enjoyed peace, being built up; and going on in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, it continued to increase.

## **QUICK REVIEW**

Summarize one thing that Pastor Rick said in his sermon this past week that stands out to you.

## **DIGGING DEEPER** What are some of the changes you have experienced in your lifetime? Which one is the most drastic? Which one is the most convenient? What was the most amazing thing about Saul's conversion? **Read Acts 9:19-22** Who has been the most "surprising" of converts to Christianity? (Could be someone in your personal life or someone you heard of) How would you know that someone has truly believed in Jesus? **Read Acts 9:23-25** What would you be willing to risk to help another Christian? Did these believers go too far?

Do you blame the Christians in Jerusalem for their hesitation? Why or why not?

**Read Acts 9:26-28** 

DIGGING DEEPER
Describe what Barnabas did for Saul. Have you ever done that for someone else? Tell us about it
Read Acts 9:29-31 What happened to the threat to the Christians after Saul's conversion?
What is one thing that you are trying to change right now in your life to make it more like Jesus?
TAKING IT HOME
Which point from this weekend's message or small group study is most important for you to remember?
PRAYER REQUEST
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