



# The Book of Acts:

## *Holy Spirit Adventures*

**Passage: Acts 8: 26–40**

**The Book of Acts – A call to see the Spirit move again and again in every generation**

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### Introduction

Pastor Jon said, *“For now, God shows the world, shows us, that no person is off limits to His love. Jesus really did die for the sins of the whole world, and now even enemies would become family.”*

What has been your reaction to God’s agenda in reaching alienated people? Are you ready for the challenge of reaching out to those unlike yourself?

Enjoy the Table Talk video with Pastor Jon [here](#).

### Unpacking the Sermon

#### **1. Acts 9:3 – “suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him.”**

Paul was “breathing out murderous threats against the Lord’s disciples” when he suddenly experienced the awesome glory of God! Pastor Jon said that this was, *“Jesus God in Flesh. Fully God and fully human, Alpha and Omega, beginning and the end!”* It was awesome and life-changing.

Are you in awe of God? To what extent does the Lord’s majesty impact your daily life? Share some ways God’s greatness inspires your day-to-day life.

#### **2. Acts 9:9 “For three days he was blind, and did not eat or drink anything.”**

Saul’s blindness illustrates his spiritual condition. He had to grapple with that for three days. No doubt, Saul’s former violence would always haunt him. What does this teach us about acknowledging our guilt and shame?

How can we consistently practice the humility that comes from acknowledging our condition without God’s grace?

#### **3. Acts 9:13 “Lord,” Ananias answered, “I have heard many reports about this man and all the harm he has done...”**

Ananias was given a challenging assignment. He asked for clarification but went to Saul as the Lord commanded. What’s the difference between asking questions to clarify God’s will, and outright doubtfully questioning God’s will? How do we maintain a readiness to follow God, no matter what?

#### **4. How do we love people like Saul?**

Read Rom. 5:10 – We should remember we were enemies too. And Jesus said to love our enemies. (Matt.5:44) This is not easy, but it is what we are called to do. How do you process this call to reach out to enemies? What helps you to do so? What blockages do you experience? How can you as a group encourage each other in this?

#### **APPLICATION**

Pastor Jon asks, *“How radical is your gospel?... Will you do what Ananias did? How radical is your hospitality?”* The very first word Ananias used was ‘brother’. Ananias is a challenging model for us. How can we grow to be more like him?

#### **Prayer:**

Dear Father in Heaven, we thank you for your power that is drawing all sorts of people to yourself. As you work in amazing ways, please help us to be ready to respond with radical love. You know how our hearts need to open more to people around us. Help us to be ready to call others ‘brother’ and ‘sister’ with your Spirit’s help. Amen

Have questions about the sermon? Email us: [groups@sanctuschurch.com](mailto:groups@sanctuschurch.com)