

Marked
Determine the Author
April 18, 2021

2 Corinthians 3:16-18 (MSG) Whenever, though, **THEY turn to face God** as Moses did, God removes the veil and there they are—**face-to-face!** They suddenly recognize that God is a **living, personal presence**, not a piece of chiseled stone. And when God is personally present, a living Spirit, that **old, constricting legislation** is recognized as **obsolete**. We're free of it! All of us! Nothing between us and God, our faces shining with the brightness of his face. And so we are **transfigured** much like the Messiah, our lives **gradually** becoming **brighter** and more **beautiful** as God enters our lives and we become like him.

If God is the author:

1. I need to put down my _____.

Acts 9:1-2 Meanwhile, **Saul was uttering threats with every breath** and was eager to kill the Lord's followers. So he went to the high priest. He requested letters addressed to the synagogues in Damascus, asking for their cooperation in the **arrest of any followers of the Way** he found there. He wanted to bring them—both men and women—back to Jerusalem in chains.

3 reasons why we don't:

- ✓ We don't think God does the _____ thing.
- ✓ We've tried to believe, and it didn't _____.
- ✓ We've listened to the _____ of others.

Acts 9:3-6 As he was approaching Damascus on this mission, **a light from heaven** suddenly shone down around him. He fell to the ground and **heard a voice** saying to him, "Saul! Saul! Why are you persecuting me?" "**Who are you, lord?**" Saul asked. And the voice replied, "**I am Jesus, the one you are persecuting!** Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do."

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How to believe and decide to let down my pen:

- ✓ Realize that Jesus will _____ for you.
- ✓ Take a _____ to discover who Jesus is.
- ✓ Give your _____ to the one who gave his life.

2. I need to embrace the other _____.

Acts 9:10-19 Now there was a believer in Damascus named **Ananias**. The Lord spoke to him in a vision, calling, “Ananias!” “Yes, Lord!” he replied. The Lord said, “Go over to Straight Street, to the house of Judas. When you get there, ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul. He is praying to me right now. I have shown him a vision of a man named Ananias coming in and laying hands on him so he can see again.” “But Lord,” exclaimed Ananias, “I’ve heard many people talk about the terrible things this man has done to the believers in Jerusalem! And he is authorized by the leading priests to arrest everyone who calls upon your name.” But the Lord said, “Go, for Saul is my chosen instrument to take my message to the Gentiles and to kings, as well as to the people of Israel. And I will show him how much he must suffer for my name’s sake.” So **Ananias went and found Saul**. He laid his hands on him and said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road, has sent me so that you might regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” Instantly something like scales fell from Saul’s eyes, and **he regained his sight**. Then he got up and was **baptized**. Afterward he ate some food and **regained his strength**.

3. I need to stay _____ in my current season.

Galatians 1:15-17 But even before I was born, God chose me and called me by his marvelous grace. Then it pleased him to reveal his Son to me so that I would proclaim the Good News about Jesus to the Gentiles. When this happened, **I did not rush** out to consult with any human being. **Nor did I go up to Jerusalem** to consult with those who were apostles before I was. Instead, I **went away into Arabia**, and later I returned to the city of Damascus.

Walk Away: I have decided to allow God to be the _____ of my life.

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