

## **SERMON NOTES AND SCRIPTURE**

### **Acts 9:19b–28**

19b Saul spent several days with the disciples in Damascus. 20 At once he began to preach in the synagogues that Jesus is the Son of God. 21 All those who heard him were astonished and asked, “Isn’t he the man who raised havoc in Jerusalem among those who call on this name? And hasn’t he come here to take them as prisoners to the chief priests?” 22 Yet Saul grew more and more powerful and baffled the Jews living in Damascus by proving that Jesus is the Messiah.

23 After many days had gone by, there was a conspiracy among the Jews to kill him, 24 but Saul learned of their plan. Day and night they kept close watch on the city gates in order to kill him. 25 But his followers took him by night and lowered him in a basket through an opening in the wall.

26 When he came to Jerusalem, he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him, not believing that he really was a disciple. 27 But Barnabas took him and brought him to the apostles. He told them how Saul on his journey had seen the Lord and that the Lord had spoken to him, and how in Damascus he had preached fearlessly in the name of Jesus. 28 So Saul stayed with them and moved about freely in Jerusalem, speaking boldly in the name of the Lord.

### **Colossians 3:16**

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

### **Three ways we can practice continual growth:**

- 1. Learn to value others.**
- 2. Grow to welcome others into our life.**
- 3. Choose to help others take their next step.**

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# **GROUP DISCUSSION**

**Please read the passages of Scripture together.**

**As we studied the story of Paul after his conversion, how did the “others” in the story play such a vital role?**

**Who are those people in your life?**

**Who are the people that you can look back and acknowledge that God brought them into your life to help you along your way?**

**What is making it hard for you to let others in?**

**How has serving God opened your eyes to the ways God works?**