

Simon: He tried to run under his hurdles!

Jacob: He tried to run around his hurdles!

Saul: He tried to run through his hurdles!

SAUL

1. Saul was born in Tarsus.

Acts 22:3 *"I am a Jew, born in Tarsus of Cilicia, but brought up in this city . . ."*

2. Saul was born a Roman Citizen.

Acts 22:28-29 *Then the commander said, "I had to pay a lot of money for my citizenship." "But I was born a citizen," ... Those who were about to interrogate him withdrew immediately. The commander himself was alarmed when he realized that he had put (him), a Roman citizen, in chains.*

3. Saul was a Pharisee taught by Gamaliel.

Acts 22:3 *"I studied under Gamaliel and was thoroughly trained in the law of our ancestors. I was just as zealous for God as any of you are today."*

4. Saul was a persecutor of the Way.

Acts 22:4 *"I persecuted the followers of this Way to their death, arresting both men and women and throwing them into prison . . ."*

Saul pursued Jewish Christians to kill them!

Pivotal Moment: Saul had an encounter with Jesus on the way to Damascus and had his view of Jesus corrected.

Acts 9:4-6 *He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" "Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked. "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting," he replied. "Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do."*

PAUL

Saul was not named Paul because Jesus changed his name. Saul was named Paul because his mission was altered.

Acts 9:15 . . . *"Go! This man is my chosen instrument to proclaim my name to the Gentiles and their kings and to the people of Israel."*

Paul pursued Gentile pagans to save them!

1. Some way, somehow, your picture of who Jesus is needs to be altered from who you think He is to who He really is.
2. The most important question we must answer correctly in our lifetime is, "Who is Jesus?"
3. Saul to Paul: Our life's mission and passion is to make sure as many people as possible answer that question correctly!

My life's mission and passion were _____

My life's mission and passion are now _____
