

Digging Deeper: 9-11-22

Elder: Craig Corbin

Acts 9:1-19

Day 1: Read Acts 9:1-19; Consider the overall purpose and content of this section. What purpose does this text from the Word of God serve? Spend some time praying over the context, meaning, and the application of the text and that this week the Holy Spirit would reveal fully the truth of this passage.

Day 2: Today, read Acts 9:1-2; as the text considers Saul, persecutor and murderer of Christians. What do you know about Paul from this text and other related texts of Scripture? Why was Saul so devoted to wiping out the name and spread of the Gospel? What does the life of Saul tell you about the mercy and grace of God?

Day 3: Today read Acts 9:3-8; Here we see the conversion of Saul to Paul. Consider what is happening and what are the similarities and differences in anyone's salvation? Discuss how Saul saw his sin, the holiness of God, and his repentance.

Day 4: Today read Acts 9:9-16 ; What is the role of Ananias? Consider the sovereignty of God in this whole transaction. Do you see God's plans and purposes being expressed? In what way? Is there an element of irony when our Lord says "I will show him how much he will suffer for my name"?

Day 5: Today read Acts 9:17-19: Today we finish our reading. As you consider these "scales" that fell off his eyes, compare with: 2 Cor 4:4 and also consider Matthew 11:5. What is the significance of blindness and being able to see spiritually?

Day 6: Today consider the miracle of Paul's conversion in light of all we know about the Apostle Paul through the New Testament. Consider the marvelous work of God in seeing this miracle. Consider what this means in your prayers for the people in your life who seem hardest to reach for Christ? Consider for a moment that Paul will some day see in heaven some men and women he was responsible for murdering. The mercy of God is indeed beyond our comprehension.