Acts 9 Discussion Guide

General Discussion Questions:

- What statement or illustration from the message stuck out to you and why?
- What attributes of God were on display in the passage?
- What encouraged you?
- What point of action/application did you walk away with?

Topics for Discussion:

- The Early Church
- Saul → Paul
- Persecution
- Transformation
- Repentance

<u>Ice-Breaker:</u> What is the most radical movie plot twist you can think of, BY inserting a conversion story for a main character?

Discussion Questions:

- ? Who is the last person you would expect to see come to Christ?
 - Do you have a tendency to limit the saving power of God? Does this impact your prayers?
 - Remember: No one is beyond God's reach!

? – Other than Saul, What shocking conversion stories can you think of? (McDowell, Strobel, Brian Welch, Christopher Yuan, Etc.) Some good examples here: <u>https://myhopewithbillygraham.org/programs/</u>

? - In what way can it be said that every testimony is shocking?

- All have sinned and are undeserving of God's Grace. All are enemies of God pre-conversion.
- ? Discuss this statement from Dustin's message: "Saul is tracking down Christians but someone is tracking down Saul!"
 - Did God choose Saul or did Saul choose God? (Hint: YES!)
- ? Can you imagine the sorrowful repentance of Saul? (Acts 22:4,19; 26:11; Galatians 1:13)
 - Have you experienced this?
 - How can sorrow over our past be used by Satan?
 - How can it be used by God?
- ? Paul is a model for us in how to deal with past filled with sin and regret.
 - Paul doesn't allow himself to minimize his past.
 - Paul doesn't allow his past to paralyze him.
 - Discuss the statement "God can do great things through broken people!"
- ? Discuss the beauty of Ananias calling Paul "Brother" what attitudes does this demonstrate on the part of Ananias?
 - Is this attitude (not holding on to past wrongs, not judging someone by their past) common in churches today?