



ACTS

The Church Empowered
for Mission





CALL TO WORSHIP

Oh come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

For the Lord is a great God,
and a great King above all gods.

PSALM 95:1-3

ACTS 9:1-19 "HERE I AM, LORD"

1 But Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest 2 and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. 3 Now as he went on his way, he approached Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven shone around him. 4 And falling to the ground, he heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?"

ACTS 9:1-19



ACTS 9:1-19 "HERE I AM, LORD"

5 And he said, "Who are you, Lord?" And he said, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. 6 But rise and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." 7 The men who were traveling with him stood speechless, hearing the voice but seeing no one. 8 Saul rose from the ground, and although his eyes were opened, he saw nothing. So they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. 9 And for three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

ACTS 9:1-19



ACTS 9:1-19 "HERE I AM, LORD"

10 Now there was a disciple at Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." And he said, "Here I am, Lord." 11 And the Lord said to him, "Rise and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul, for behold, he is praying, 12 and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." 13 But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints at Jerusalem."

ACTS 9:1-19



ACTS 9:1-19 "HERE I AM, LORD"

14 And here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on your name." 15 But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel. 16 For I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name."

ACTS 9:1-19



ACTS 9:1-19 "HERE I AM, LORD"

17 So Ananias departed and entered the house. And laying his hands on him he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus who appeared to you on the road by which you came has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." 18 And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he rose and was baptized; 19 and taking food, he was strengthened. For some days he was with the disciples at Damascus.

ACTS 9:1-19



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Saul: From Self-Righteous Zeal to Humble Surrender (v. 1-9)

1 But Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest 2 and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem.

To persecute and murder a people whose “way” is the fruit of the Spirit is insane
“breathing threats and murder” = snorting snarling beast breathing in



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Ananias: From Fearful Reluctance to Faithful Obedience (v. 10–17)

10 Now there was a disciple at Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, “Ananias.” And he said, “**Here I am, Lord.**” 11 And the Lord said to him, “Rise and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul, for behold, he is praying, 12 and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.” 13 But Ananias answered, “**Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints at Jerusalem.**”



ACTS JESUS CHANGES EVERYTHING (v. 10-17)

- Saul before Christ: Violent, proud, blind.
- Saul after Christ: Humbled, prayerful, sent.
- Ananias before God's call: Fearful, hesitant, reluctant.
- Ananias after God's word: Obedient, courageous, embracing.

The gospel doesn't just change who we are—it changes what we do.

Saul, the enemy of the church, becomes God's missionary.

Ananias, the fearful disciple, becomes God's instrument of healing and welcome.



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JESUS CHANGES EVERYTHING (v. 10-17)

- What's the hardest thing the Lord has ever asked you to do?
- Where do you need to be humbled, like Saul?
- Where do you need to step out in obedience, like Ananias?
- Will you allow the gospel to not only change your heart but also send you into the lives of others?

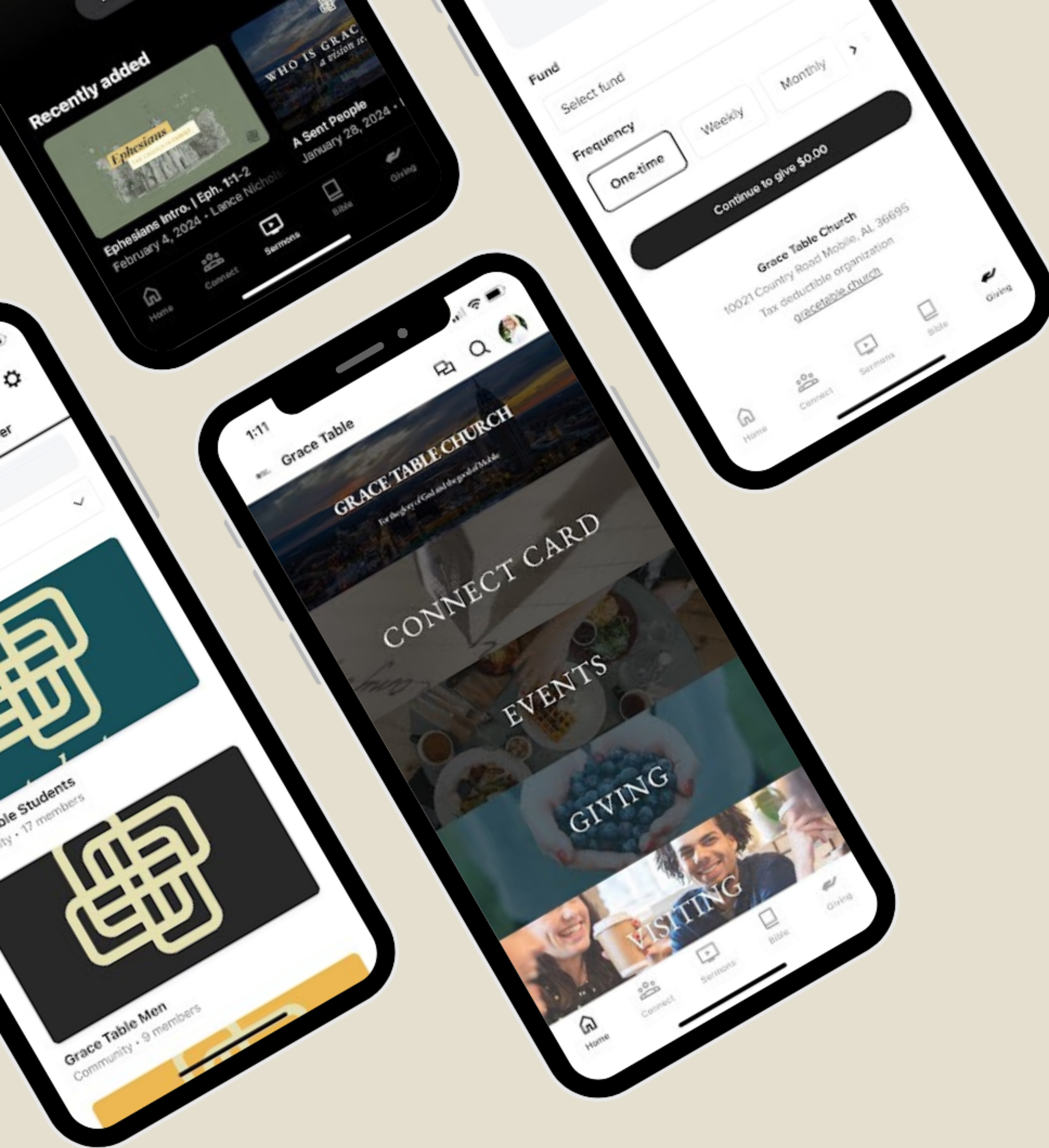




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BENEDICTION

Leader:

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

-2 Corinthians 13:14

People:

And also with you.



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