

Called By Name: "Saul!"

January 31, 2020

Scriptures: Acts 9:1-9.

Bottom Line: A transformed heart is moved to action.

Saul's Call on The Road to Damascus

God calls Saul while he is on his way to Damascus to find and kill Christians.

Saul thinks that he is persecuting Christians, but Jesus tells Saul that he was actually persecuting God. Jesus identifies Himself with humanity that strongly. How we treat others reflects how we treat Him.

When God calls Saul, He doesn't give him a grand game plan, just one step at a time.

Saul's Transformation

God takes Saul on an incredible journey. From hating and persecuting the new religious movement among the Jews, to expanding that movement into territories and people groups that other Jewish Christians thought was too far.

We are all in need of continual transformation and are all called to go.

Jessica's Transformation

Like Saul, Jessica felt God's call to bring the gospel to new places, and it completely changed her life.

- God started rearranging her beliefs
- She went to serve and love others, and she did. But God used her obedience to transform her, not just others

"We have not been filled with the Holy Spirit of God just to attend a weekly worship service and pray before our meals. We are called to be transformed continually and to be moved into action."

Response

- Spend time in listening prayer asking Jesus, "How do you want me to partner with you right where I am?"

LISTENING

Have someone in your group share something about their week. They could answer one of the following questions:

- What was a big challenge or problem you faced this week? How did you handle it?
- Where did you experience God this week? Or where do you wish you had experienced God this week?
- Based on your life experience this week, what do you think God is trying to teach you right now? What is He trying to build in you?

After the person shares, the group can respond. Make sure you let them know you heard them: tell them what you heard, offer wise advice where it's asked for, share from your own experience as well.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Review Sunday's message. What stood out to you? What challenged you? Are there any lingering questions?
2. Can you share a time that you felt your heart moved to action by God? What happened?
3. What areas of your heart are still in need of transformation?
4. What holds you back from feeling like you are called to go?