

Blinded by the Light: Extreme Makeover

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Series: Nurturing in Faith

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Overview:

This sermon explores the transformational stories of Saul and Ananias in Acts 9, focusing on the themes of divine intervention, personal courage, and radical change. We reflect on Saul's intense encounter with Jesus and Ananias's brave response to God's call.

Key Points:

1. Blinded by the Light (Acts 9:3-9):

- Saul's journey is abruptly interrupted by a divine encounter that leaves him physically and spiritually transformed. This moment of being "blinded by the light" serves as a powerful metaphor for the times our own understanding is challenged and changed.

2. Extreme Makeover (Acts 9:10-19):

- Ananias exemplifies obedience and courage in the face of fear, playing a pivotal role in Saul's transformation into Paul. This narrative highlights the impact of our obedience not just on our lives but on the broader community.

Discussion Questions:

1. Reflecting on Ananias's Courage:

- "Think about a time when God called you to step out of your comfort zone to engage with someone you disagreed with or feared. How did you respond? What might change if you responded with the courage and obedience of Ananias?"

2. Considering Personal Transformation:

- "In what areas of your life might you be 'blinded by the light'—holding onto convictions or behaviors that prevent you from seeing God's truth? How can you open yourself to a transformation like Saul's, allowing God to remake you for His purpose?"

Reflection:

As we consider these stories, let's be open to the transformations God wants to work within us. May we find the courage to face our own "Damascus Road" experiences and embrace the change God offers, transforming our challenges into opportunities for growth and deeper faith.