



Paul's Conversion Acts 9:1-19

Paul had a very unique conversion experience. Who else gets a personal call from Jesus himself, is temporarily blinded, and miraculously healed? But in more ways than you might expect, Paul's story is the same story as every believer in Christ. As we read about the radical transformation that Saul/Paul experienced and the identity and mission placed before him – try to see how much you have in common with the Apostle Paul.

Saul was no seeker. Quite the contrary! He was the young Christian church's primary prosecutor and persecutor. Read about how Paul viewed himself in the following passages. What are some significant principles that can be drawn from these passages?

- 1 Timothy 1:12-17
- 1 Corinthians 15:8-11
- Romans 5:6-8

After reading Ephesians 2:1-9, discuss how Saul's conversion story and testimony is similar to every believer of Christ. Make it personal. In what ways does Saul's story parallel yours?

This episode of Saul emphasizes that God's arm is not too short to reach even the "worst of sinners." No matter how wicked, God has the capability to save anyone. Other than Saul, identify other big "sinner-to-saint" stories. What does this tell us about some of the Lord's attributes?

God's revelation to Ananias foretells Paul's purpose and destiny. What do the following passages tell us about God's plan and purposes? Are these unique to Paul, or are they shared with all believers? Explain your answer.

- Romans 1:1-2
- Galatians 1:15-17
- Ephesians 3:7-11

Ananias is fearful of Saul's reputation and initially reluctant to go to Saul. But he goes. Has there ever been times like this for you – where you have had initial fear and reluctance, only to see God work? If so, explain your experience. If you haven't had an experience like this, might you be playing your Christian faith walk too safe? What would it take for you to step out and do something beyond your comfort zone?