

**Starter:** Break into smaller small groups and share stories of when you were in a really dangerous/serious situation and needed rescuing. [Theme: Jesus is our Saviour]

**Discussion points:**

1. Referring to Acts 9:1-31; Acts 22:1-21; Acts 26:9-18 and Gal 1:11-24 collectively paint a picture of Saul/Paul's conversion experience.
2. Consider for a moment verse 17 of Acts 9. Ananais says "Brother Saul". What do you imagine that might have meant for Paul? What do you imagine it might have cost Ananais to call Paul 'brother'?
3. Poll the group for 'marks' of the salvation experience. Compare them to the seven Pastor Mark suggested [Explain you experience; Desire to do the will of God; Surrender to the Spirit; Profession that is public; A difference that is discernable; A love that lasts]
4. There are no 'hopeless' cases. Have each member write down the name of a person they know that is LEAST likely to give their heart to the Lord. Collect the names in an envelope and commit to pray for the salvation of those whose names are in the envelope every time you meet as a group.
5. Of Paul's 2 questions: 1. Who is this Jesus? (Acts 22:8) And 2. What does God want me to do? (Acts 22:10) which does each member most relate to? 1 or 2. Perhaps get people to raise their hands. If there is the desire have one or two share why they voted the way they did.
6. In Galatians, we discover that Paul didn't go directly to Jerusalem after his conversion experience. He went out to Arabia (read desert) and then to Jerusalem via Damascus. Can anyone relate to a period of waiting or refining (a 'pause') after an encounter with Jesus?
7. Challenge each member to write out their salvation story and to share it with at least one person between this meeting and the next one. [How would you describe your life BEFORE Christ? How did you know that you needed to be saved? What specific people and circumstances did God use? When and where were you saved? How is your life now that you are saved?]

**Diving Deeper:**

**Read 2 Corinthians 5:17**

Reflect on the TRUTH that you are a new creation. What aspects of your character can you recognize that newness? Celebrate! What areas are you still desiring to see that newness manifest? Consider fasting and praying for breakthrough!