



Topeka Bible Church
The Life of Paul, Episode 3:
"Life with a Long-Range View"
Community Group Study Questions
Acts 9:10-19a

1. Ananias initially responded with a willingness to obey (Acts 9:10). Knowing Paul's past, however, what do you think Ananias felt when he realized what God was asking him to do (Acts 9:13)? What did Ananias eventually choose to do (Acts 9:17)?

2. Have you ever felt like you were totally unprepared for what God was bringing your way? In what ways might God surprise you at this stage in your Christian experience? How eager are you to obey God when He asks you to do the unexpected?

3. Luke includes an interesting detail in Acts 9:11 – Ananias was to go to "Straight street" to find Paul in Damascus. Why do you think he included this detail? What does this say about God's attention to this matter? Does God guide us in similar way today? Why or why not?

4. Do you tend to be more socially independent, or socially connected? Does the Lord seem to be "forcing" any relationships on you right now just as He did on Paul and Ananias? How open are you to that?

5. Do you believe that you are a “chosen instrument” (Acts 9:15-16) of God’s who is charged to bear His name to others? Why or why not (see 1 Peter 2:11-12 for a hint)? How must Paul have felt once he realized that this was the life to which God called him? How willing are you to live out God’s call to proclaim the gospel in your everyday life?

6. How might Paul’s conversion comfort a concerned parent (or other authority figure)? Are you enduring a painful and apparently meaningless experience that might look entirely different in the long run, if God gets hold of it?

7. How does this passage expand your scope of God’s sovereignty and grace? Spend time this week prayerfully asking God to prepare you for the unexpected. Share with others as you process what this might mean for you.

Memory Verses:

“But the Lord said to him, ‘Go, for he is a chosen instrument of Mine, to bear My name before the Gentiles and kings and the sons of Israel; (9:16) for I will show him how much he must suffer for My name’s sake.’”

(Acts 9:15-16, NASB)