



Saul's Conversion

Getting to know each other:

If you were forced to choose, would you rather go a week without A/C or without coffee? Bonus: If you have a coffee "conversion story," share it with the group.

Read Acts 9:1-19a

1. Before Saul's conversion, how would you describe his life based on what we've read about him so far in chapters 8 and 9?
2. For more insight as to Saul's determination, look for Jerusalem and Damascus on a map. Why was Saul so determined to persecute the church?
3. **Using Scripture For Further Context:** Read Philippians 3:5-6 and Acts 26:4-11. What else do you see here? What does Saul's condition at the time of meeting Jesus on the road show you about God?
4. Jesus addresses the beliefs behind Saul's determination with one phrase found in verse 5: "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting." Why was hearing these words from Jesus himself so impactful?
5. In the sermon, Pastor Silverio pointed out that in his words to Saul, Jesus not only addresses what Saul believes about Jesus but also what he believes about his Church. Based on your best understanding on verse 5, how does Jesus see his Church? Can you think of other places in Scripture to support this understanding?
6. "I am a Christian, but I don't do church." Pastor Silverio suggested that a way of addressing this belief is not by getting defensive or into an argument with someone. Instead by making a case for what Scripture says about the Church. Discuss how you might make such a case, keeping in mind that the goal in these situations isn't to "be right," but to help a fellow sister/brother better see what God says in Scripture and work through the reasons they believe what they currently believe.
7. In the same chapter, we see another disciple of Jesus who is learning to be obedient to Jesus. Read verses 12-17 again and ponder this question as you do: What is something I am learning to be obedient about? After reading these verses, share with the group.

Next Steps 2023

- What are some of your next steps in faith for 2023? Share any updates with your group.
- When you complete your next step using the campus QR code below.

Prayer

- Share praises and prayer requests with one another.
- Guided prayer: God, show me where I am holding any beliefs that do not align with your will. Teach me your ways. Guide me in the path that leads to life. May I be a light on this path towards my family and those around me. In Jesus' name.

