



## Lesson 4:

### Saul's Conversion

#### Read Acts 9

1. Can you remember a time when you were adamant about an issue or idea only to learn you were completely misguided? If so, share with the group what it took to “convert” you and what you learned in the process.
2. Saul (later called Paul) trusted his friend Luke to write his biography which included 3 accounts of his conversion. Read the following accounts and give a careful description of what Paul says he was converted *from*. **Acts 9:1-2; Acts 22:3 -5; Acts 26:4 -11; Galatians 1: 13-17; Philippians 3:3 – 9.**
3. How does the conversion of Saul on the road to Damascus teach the truth that Jesus spoke in **John 6:44**, “No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him?” and **John 15:16**, “You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit?”
4. The Old Testament prophets had prepared God’s people to expect a God initiated “*conversion experience*” that would display His grace and mercy. Read the following verses and note what difference this conversion by grace would make in the life of a person.
  - Isaiah 57:15 \_\_\_\_\_
  - Jeremiah 32:39 \_\_\_\_\_
  - Ezekiel 11:19 -20 \_\_\_\_\_  
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  - Ezekiel 36:26-27 \_\_\_\_\_  
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5. How does **Isaiah 29:13 -14** help to explain why people like Saul missed the truth of Christ?
  
6. As you read **Acts 9:4 -16**, what do you find noteworthy in the words of Christ to Saul and to Ananias?
  
7. Our God is not capricious or wasteful in His ways, what do you learn about Him and His purpose in conversions as you think about the way He chose to change Saul?
  
8. **Read Acts 9:10 - 30**. Imagine the difficulty you would have had welcoming Saul into the fellowship of believers. Who has been your Ananias or Barnabas since becoming a believer?
  
9. **Read Acts 9:31- 43**. In these verses, Luke illustrates how Acts 1:8 was being fulfilled and highlights how the Spirit of God was working with Peter, softening his prejudice against mingling with Gentiles. How would the two miracles that Luke describes serve to soften and prepare Peter for further ministry?
  
10. What has Acts 9 taught you concerning your past, forgiveness and God's power? What "unlikely convert" do you have new hope for after reading this chapter?