

Lesson Nine: Saul Appointed

Saul's Conversion *(read verses 9:1-31)*

- 1) The episode on the Damascus road was a profound learning experience for Saul. What did he learn about...
 - a) who Jesus is (9:4-5, 20, 22)?

 - b) what his own mission was going to be (9:15-16, 20-30)?

- 2) Saul later emphasized that he saw Jesus Himself not just a vision of Him (see Acts 9:27; 1 Corinthians 9:1; 16:7-10). What did this mean for him?

- 3) What roles did Stephen, Ananias, and Barnabas have in Saul's reconciliation with God and His people?
 - a) Stephen (7:59 – 8:1)?

 - b) Ananias (9:10-17)?

 - c) Barnabas (9:26-27)?

- 4) Why is it important for us to think about the early Christians' willingness to suffer for Jesus' name (see 5:40-42; 7:59-60; 9:15-16, 23-30)?

The church in Antioch *(read verses 11:19-30)*

- 5) What was the relationship between the churches in Jerusalem and Antioch (see 11:22, 27-29)?

- 6) What laudable traits do Barnabas and the Christians at Antioch show in 11:19-26?

- 7) What do verses 29-30 tell you about Christian fellowship/partnership/sharing? Is there a lesson here for you and our church?

Your Response: *(consider doing one or more of these activities this week)*

- ✓ How is your mission as a Christian like and unlike Saul's? How are you fulfilling this mission; and how can you do so better?

- ✓ Imagine yourself going back to your hometown to spread the gospel, as Paul did (9:30, 11:25). How would you feel?

- ✓ What one insight from this week's reading would you like to apply to your life? How will you apply it?