

Acts – 9/20/26

Read

Read Acts 9:20-31 and consider what lessons the Holy Spirit intends us to learn.

Examine

- V.22 says that Paul was “proving that Jesus was the Christ” to the Jews in Damascus. Why is it important that Christianity is rational and logical? What does this teach about evangelism—is it purely a matter of convincing people of facts? Why or why not?
- How do the events of this passage connect both to Stephen’s story (Acts 7-8) and to the previous passage (Acts 9:1-19)? Why does it matter that Paul experiencing suffering and humiliation?
- What role did Barnabas play in this passage? Why does he provide evidence of Saul’s conversion? What reasons are we given that show his conversion was genuine?
- V.31 is one of several “summary statements” within Acts. What does it teach about the nature of the church and how God accomplishes his mission? What brings about the multiplication of the church?

Apply

- V.22 refers to Saul’s ongoing growth in Christ. Would you say that you are growing as a disciple in this season, stagnant, or backsliding? What is the Holy Spirit calling you to do in this season based on your answer? How can community help you in this season?
- As a Christian, Paul had others who grew in Christ under his teaching and discipleship (v.25). Who are you helping grow in Christ? If no one, who could you begin to help grow in Christ?
- What might it look like to preach boldly in the name of Jesus in everyday life? How do we increase our boldness as followers of Jesus?
- How does God grow his church today? Is it different from how he grew the church in Acts? Why or why not? How can we contribute to the growth of the church? What do we do that hinders the growth of the church?

Pray

Take time to praise God for who He is, confess sins, and/or make requests based on this passage.