

Discussion / Reflection Guide -- “Beyond Fear”
Week of October 15, 2017

Read Acts 9:1-20

- Saul was obviously very angry with Christians and wanted to do whatever he could to capture them. See also Acts 7:57 to 8:1-3. Why was he so angry?
- Saul is also called Paul. See Acts 13:9. Saul had an extraordinary experience with Jesus (Acts 9:3-12). Jesus doesn't generally do this sort of thing. Why do you suppose Jesus revealed himself to Saul like this? Does Paul's explanation of this incident in Acts 26:14-18 add anything which helps explain why Jesus took such extraordinary measures to reach Saul?
- The Lord “spoke” to Ananias (Acts 9:10). Has God ever “spoken” to you? How did He speak? How did you know it was God? Jesus' sheep know His voice. John 10:27.
- How did Ananias feel about Saul? See Acts 9:13-14. Do you believe his feelings were justified?
- Ananias eventually was able to get past his fear. See Acts 9:15-17. How did he do it? God didn't really give Ananias a promise like He did to Joshua in Joshua 1:5-9. What do you think it was about the Lord's response that made him willing to go to Saul in spite of his fear?
- Has God ever asked you to do something “scary?” What was it? Did you do it? Did you wait a while before you did it or did you do it right away? How did you get past your fear? What lesson(s) did you learn from that experience? How can you use that lesson to help someone else who is facing fear?