

Sharing the Good News

Acts 9:1-19

Acts 9:1-19 (NASB)

- ¹ “Now Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest,
² and asked for letters from him to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way, both men and women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem.
³ As he was traveling, it happened that he was approaching Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him;
⁴ and he fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?"
⁵ And he said, "Who are You, Lord?" And He *said*, "I am Jesus whom you are persecuting,
⁶ but get up and enter the city, and it will be told you what you must do."
⁷ The men who traveled with him stood speechless, hearing the voice but seeing no one.
⁸ Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; and leading him by the hand, they brought him into Damascus.
⁹ And he was three days without sight, and neither ate nor drank.
¹⁰ Now there was a disciple at Damascus named Ananias; and the Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." And he said, "Here I am, Lord."
¹¹ And the Lord *said* to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and inquire at the house of Judas for a man from Tarsus named Saul, for he is praying,
¹² and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him, so that he might regain his sight."
¹³ But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much harm he did to Your saints at Jerusalem;
¹⁴ and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on Your name."
¹⁵ But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen instrument of Mine, to bear My name before the Gentiles and kings and the sons of Israel;
¹⁶ for I will show him how much he must suffer for My name's sake."
¹⁷ So Ananias departed and entered the house, and after laying his hands on him said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road by which you were coming, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit."
¹⁸ And immediately there fell from his eyes something like scales, and he regained his sight, and he got up and was baptized;
¹⁹ and he took food and was strengthened. Now for several days he was with the disciples who were at Damascus.”

When you receive exciting news, what’s the first thing you do? If you’re like most people, you probably tell someone who will share your joy. The apostle Paul told others about salvation for a similar reason.

Talimid Shorts 11/15/17

Dr. Eddie Ildefonso

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God saved Paul on the road to Damascus, and the apostle dedicated the rest of his life to spreading the good news of the gospel. He gave his time, his energy, and ultimately, his life because he was committed to telling people about Jesus.

Why would he do this? Paul felt a deep obligation. First, he was indebted to Jesus for salvation. But his motivation came from more than just his love for and devotion to the Lord. He also felt compelled to offer hope to a world that was in desperate need ([1 Timothy 1:15-16](#)).

1 Timothy 1:15-16 (NASB)

¹⁵ **“It is a trustworthy statement, deserving full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, among whom I am foremost of all.**

¹⁶ **Yet for this reason I found mercy, so that in me as the foremost, Jesus Christ might demonstrate His perfect patience as an example for those who would believe in Him for eternal life.”**

And the message he gave them was this: *God sent His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into the world in human form. Through His death on the cross, Jesus paid mankind’s sin debt in full. All who receive Him as their personal Savior will be forgiven.*

Paul realized he needed to bring the gospel to the Greeks as well as to the non-Greeks. In other words, he had to tell everyone. Some would accept the truth, while others would reject it. The apostle himself could not save people—he wasn’t responsible for their reaction. His task was simply to tell about Jesus.

Do you feel the same indebtedness that Paul felt? Pray that God would give you courage and wisdom to share the gospel with others.