

### The Heart of the Matter

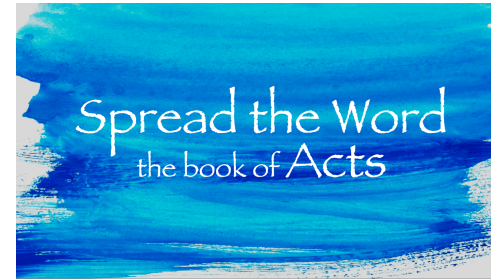
12. What changes did people around you notice when you began following Christ? How did people react to the new you?

13. Who has been a Barnabas to you? How so? Who do you need to be a Barnabas to? When should you start?

14. From verse 31 what does it mean for you to live “in the fear of the Lord?”

15. God changes His workmen, but the work goes on. How did the Gospel come to you? Where are you working to spread the Good News?

### Prayer Requests:



## Life Group Study Guide

### Building Up the Church Acts 9:19-31 For the Week of May 2, 2021

#### Getting Started

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling?
2. Who do people say you look like?
3. When was a time when it just seemed like everything was going the wrong way for you or that everyone was out to get you? What did you do to move forward?

### **Digging Deeper**

4. In verses 19-20 what was the first ministry opportunity that Saul took advantage of after his conversion? What might those in attendance at the synagogue have expected Saul to say when he began to speak? What did they actually hear?

5. In verse 21 how did Saul's listeners respond to his message? How was Saul able to change so quickly from being a persecutor/ hunter to proclaiming the Gospel?

6. In verse 22 what kinds of things might Saul have said about "proving that Jesus is the Christ" from Old Testament Scripture to baffle or confound the Jews in Damascus? In verse 23 how did the Jews in Damascus finally react to Saul's message?

7. According to Saul's own conversion account in Galatians 1:13-18 a period of three years transpired before he went to Jerusalem. When Saul went to Jerusalem and tried to meet with the disciples why would they still fear him?

8. In verse 27 how did Barnabas make all the difference again in this passage concerning Saul's status with the early church members and leaders?

9. It seemed that wherever Saul went, in Damascus or Jerusalem people wanted to put him to death. Why was this so? How did Saul continue to move forward in the midst of all these negative personal attacks?

10. How is Saul's conversion ultimately related to what Jesus said to the disciples in Acts 1:8? In what way? To what degree?

11. Verse 31 marks another summary statement that is often found throughout the book of Acts concerning the ongoing movement and growth of the church. From this verse what sort of attributes would you use to describe the nature of the early church at this time?