

GROWING IN FAITH



Acts 9

Then Ananias went to the house and entered it. Placing his hands on Saul, he said, “Brother Saul, the Lord—Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you were coming here—has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” Immediately, something like scales fell from Saul’s eyes, and he could see again. He got up and was baptized, and after taking some food, he regained his strength. Saul spent several days with the disciples in Damascus. At once he began to preach in the synagogues that Jesus is the Son of God. All those who heard him were astonished and asked, “Isn’t he the man who raised havoc in Jerusalem among those who call on this name? And hasn’t he come here to take them as prisoners to the chief priests?” Yet Saul grew more and more powerful and baffled the Jews living in Damascus by proving that Jesus is the Messiah.

Acts 9:17-22

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GOING DEEPER

What do you think about suffering?

Must Christians suffer? If so, in what way or to what degree?

Is suffering bad, good, both, or neither?

What does Acts seem to say about the suffering of the faithful? (cf. Acts 5:41, 9:16).

Your experience of God.

We have all experienced God’s presence in some way, big or small. Take a moment to share one experience.

Saul’s life changed as a result. How did your life change when you have experienced God?

Saul, the man, the myth, the legend.

What about Saul’s story to this point stands out to you?

What do you see in his personality that benefits the kingdom of God?

What do you see in his personality that could hinder the kingdom of God?