

DAMASCUS
July 29-30, 2023

Now as he went on his way, he approached Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven shone around him. And falling to the ground he heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?" **Acts 9:3-4**

Paul's Story

1. **Jesus** _____ **the work.**

And he said, "Who are you, Lord?" And he said, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But rise and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." **Acts 9:5-6**

2. _____ **joined in Jesus' work.**

Now there was a disciple at Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." And he said, "Here I am, Lord." And the Lord said to him, "Rise and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul, for behold, he is praying, 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." **Acts 9:10-12**

3. **Joining Jesus isn't always** _____ **!**

But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints at Jerusalem. And here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on your name." **Acts 9:13-14**

4. **God has a** _____ **plan.**

But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel." **Acts 9:15**

5. **Jesus** _____ **Paul for his calling.**

For I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name. **Acts 9:16**

Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus who appeared to you on the road by which you came has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit. And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he rose and was baptized; and taking food, he was strengthened. For some days he was with the disciples at Damascus. **Acts 9:17-19**

Our Story

1. **Jesus** _____ **the work.**

You did not choose me, but I chose you... **John 15:16a**

2. _____ **join in Jesus' work.**

3. **Joining Jesus is not going to be** _____ **.**

Beware of men, for they will deliver you over to courts and flog you in their synagogues, and you will be dragged before governors and kings for my sake, to bear witness before them and the Gentiles. **Matthew 10:17-18**

4. **God has a** _____ **plan.**

5. **Jesus is** _____ **you for your calling.**

When they deliver you over, do not be anxious how you are to speak or what you are to say, for what you are to say will be given to you in that hour. For it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. **Matthew 10:19-20**

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Saturday Worship (In-person Only)

5:30 p.m. Traditional

Sunday Worship (Hybrid)

8:45 a.m. Traditional

11:15 a.m. Contemporary

Summer Education Hour (10 a.m.)

Pastor Chuck is leading us through the book of Proverbs in the Lower Level and on Zoom. Sue Steege is teaching an Intergenerational class in the Library. Susan Whited is teaching a class on student-directed topics for High Schoolers in the Upper Level.

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