Acts 9:10-19a - The Conversion of Saul, Part 2

Sermon Outline:

I. Ananias the disciple

- * He had an ear that was open to the voice of the Lord. (11)
- * He had a will that was obedient to the command of the Lord. (12–17)
- * He had hands that were used for the work of the Lord. (17, 22:12)

II. Saul the convert

- * He was fasting and praying for 3 days. (9, 11)
- * Cared for by the Lord (12)
- * Included in the family (17)
- * Empowered by the Spirit (17)
- * Commissioned by the Lord (15)
- * Baptized in obedience (18)

III. Gospel Truths

- * Blindness to sight and darkness to light are metaphors for salvation. (2 Cor. 4:4-6)
- * Baptism is a step of obedience after salvation.
- * When God saves us, he gives us a:
 - * New Identity
 - * New Family
 - * New Purpose
 - * New Sight
 - * New Power

Application:

- 1. Trust in the Lord Jesus this day.
- 2. Don't consider anyone too far gone for grace to reach.
- 3. Pray for the one who might seem to be too far gone.
- 4. Ask the Lord to open your ears to His voice and your will to His.
- 5. Take simple steps of obedience this week.

Small Group Questions:

- 1. What from the Bible passage and sermon spoke to you?
- 2. How is Ananias an example of what what it looks like to be a disciple? What were the 3 marks of his life as a disciple that Justin discussed? What does it mean to be a disciple?
- 3. Can you relate to Ananias' fear about Saul? Has the Lord ever called you to do something that seemed too hard or risky? What does it look like to trust the Lord even when the road may seem difficult?
- 4. What does it say about Ananias when he refers to Saul as "Brother Saul"? What does this say about salvation? How would have it encouraged Saul? How does it encourage you?

- 5. What does it mean for God to give us a new identity, family, purpose, sight, and power in salvation? What are the implications in our lives daily?
- 6. Who is someone in your life that seems too far from grace to reach? How does this story impact how you pray for them? How does it impact your heart towards them? How can you pray for them and your own heart?