

God Statement: The Holy Spirit Transforms

Read in your Bible: Acts 9

Question #1:

Before jumping into the events that take place in chapter 9, take a moment to remember who Saul is. What was Saul known for? What was his reputation among the people? Was Saul a tyrant? A religious man?

Question #2:

Why was Saul on the road to Damascus? What was his purpose? Why was he doing what he was doing?

Question #3:

Is there any significance to the fact that Jesus temporarily blinds Saul? (Hint, what are other examples of blindness in the Bible?)

Question #4:

What was the importance of Ananias' obedience? What was at stake for him to obey what the Lord had told him to do in his dream?

Question #5:

Beyond opening Saul's physical eyes, what were the results of Ananias' simple obedience? (Hint, think about the New Testament as a whole)

Worship Response:

Both Saul and Ananias encounter Jesus and it changes their lives. Both men encounter Jesus and have a choice to either obey or disobey. God's transformation in our lives always start with encountering him, surrendering our lives, and then obeying him in thought, word, and deed. As a way of expressing this biblical pattern of encounter, surrender, and obedience, take some time to worship God by yourself. Whether that is in your room, out in nature, or in a quiet place. Wherever you are, worship God by writing down one area in your life that you need the Holy Spirit to transform inside of you. It could be a habit, a relationship, or something in your life that is not producing the fruit of the Spirit inside of you. Once the Holy Spirit has revealed that one area to you, take some time in prayer and invite the Holy Spirit to transform you into the likeness of Christ in that specific area.

Further Reading (Optional)

Isaiah 6:1-8. Try to identify the pattern of encounter, surrender, and obedience.