

SERMON NOTES

*Serve: A Biblical Foundation for Missional Living
Acts 9:1-5; Romans 1:14-17; Acts 1:8*

Reading the conversion of Saul in Acts 9, and then reading Romans 1, his passion for spreading the gospel is evident. What happened? What could make such a dramatic change in his life? **The Gospel.** Jesus had changed Saul to Paul, and it was much more than a name change, he had experienced **Life Change! Paul was radically transformed by the gospel and his belief impacted every day of his life.**

Often we look at the apostle Paul and think that from day one he had arrived. In reality, his letters reveal a growing faith. The truth is, we see Paul growing in faith and when exercised, that faith led him to **experience God personally** and also **to be used by God mightily.**

“Now Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest, and asked for letters from him to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way, both men and women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. As he was traveling, it happened that he was approaching Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him; and he fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, ‘Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?’ And he said, ‘Who are You, Lord?’ And He said, ‘I am Jesus whom you are persecuting.’” *Acts 9:1–5*

“I am under obligation both to Greeks and to barbarians, both to the wise and to the foolish. So, for my part, I am eager to preach the gospel to you also who are in Rome. For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, ‘But the righteous man shall live by faith.’” *Romans 1:14–17*

Paul’s growing intimacy with Jesus overflowed into a passion and commitment to saturating the world with the gospel.

Key thought: Your passion and commitment to saturating Huntsville and the world with the gospel will be the overflow from a growing intimacy with Jesus.

THE BIBLICAL FOUNDATION FOR LIVING MISSIONALLY:

You Are God’s Plan | *Acts 1:8*

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.” *Acts 1:8*

Strategy defined – A strategy is the practical organization and plan for the church, (which is based on biblical truth), that enables the church to fulfill its God given purpose and vision.

CONNECT – *Hebrews 10:25*

The church assembled to be strengthened by the preaching of God’s Word, to reinforce the faith through song, and to express corporate praise and worship to Jesus Christ.

GROW – *Hebrews 6:1; 1 Peter 2:2-3; Colossians 1:9-10; Ephesians 4:13-16*

The church organized into groups to evangelize the lost, equip the saved, and provide fellowship to meet individual needs.

SERVE – *Mark 16:15; Psalm 96:3; Luke 24:47; John 20:21*

The entire church personally involved in being on mission by intentionally engaging in opportunities to serve others, and to share the gospel in our “Judea, Samaria, and the uttermost parts of the world.”

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You Must Have A Connection | *Romans 1:16-17*

Paul shared the gospel out of a conviction that the only hope for man's soul is salvation which is found in Jesus Christ.

You Must Have A Commitment | *Romans 1:14-15*

1. I am debtor (obligation) - (v.14)
2. I am ready - (v.15)
3. I am not ashamed - (v.16)