

WELCOME!
Friday Men's Breakfast

January 22, 2021



The Life of the Apostle Paul

#2 – “Paul’s Ministry Journey Begins”

Acts 9:1-19b-31

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Paul's Ministry Journey Begins (Acts 9:19b-31)

1 Corinthians 11:1

Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.

Philippians 1:21

For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

Big Idea:

Paul modeled a life *surrendered* to Jesus Christ for us to follow.

Context for Acts 9:19b-31



Context for Acts 9:19b-31

- Saul is still in Damascus (Syria).
- He will eventually be in Jerusalem.
- *Galatians 1:17-18* – Saul spent 3 years in Damascus and Arabia.

Paul's Ministry Journey Begins (Acts 9:19b-31)

1) Starting in Damascus (Acts 9:19b-25)



Paul's Ministry Journey Begins (Acts 9:19b-31)

“Saul’s plans for persecuting Christians in Damascus took a strange turn; he had entered the city blind and left in a basket! Ironically he became the object of persecution.”

- **Stanley D. Toussaint**

Paul's Ministry Journey Begins (Acts 9:19b-31)

2 Corinthians 11:32-33

At Damascus, the governor under King Aretas was guarding the city of Damascus in order to seize me, but I was let down in a basket through a window in the wall and escaped his hands.

Paul's Ministry Journey Begins (Acts 9:19b-31)

Acts 9:15-16

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. For I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name."

Paul's Ministry Journey Begins (Acts 9:19b-31)

- 1) Starting in Damascus (Acts 9:19b-25)**
- 2) Moving to Jerusalem (Acts 9:26-31)**

Paul's Ministry Journey Begins (Acts 9:19b-31)

What Can We Learn?

1) The *person* of Jesus is central to the message of Jesus.

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“... We believe that all the Scriptures center about the Lord Jesus Christ in His person and work in His first and second coming, and hence that no portion, even of the Old Testament, is properly read, or understood, until it leads to Him ...”

**- Dallas Seminary Doctrinal Statement,
Article 1 (The Scriptures)**

The *person* of Jesus is central to the message of Jesus.

2 Corinthians 1:20

For all the promises of God find their Yes in him. That is why it is through him that we utter our Amen to God for his glory.

Paul's Ministry Journey Begins (Acts 9:19b-31)

What Can We Learn?

- 1) The *person* of Jesus is central to the message of Jesus.
- 2) The *people* of Jesus are central to our walk with Jesus.

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Barnabas = “son of encouragement” (*Acts 4:36*)

Acts 11:25-26

So Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul, and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. For a whole year they met with the church and taught a great many people. And in Antioch the disciples were first called Christians.

The *people* of Jesus are central to our walk with Jesus.

Proverbs 24:6

for by wise guidance you can wage your war, and in abundance of counselors there is victory.

Proverbs 18:2

Whoever isolates himself seeks his own desire; he breaks out against all sound judgment

Paul's Ministry Journey Begins (Acts 9:19b-31)

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Discussion Questions

- 1) Why is spending time in God's word essential in our discipleship walk with Jesus? How do you do this?**
- 2) Who has been a "Barnabas" in your life? Have you ever been a "Barnabas" to someone else?**

Next Week:

Missionary Journey #1 – Cypress (*Acts 12:24-13:12*)

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