

Today's Message

GETTING OUR ACTS TOGETHER GCF Sermon Series on the Book of Acts
#15: "Blinded to See the Light" (Saul's Conversion)
Acts 9:1-19

At the trial of Stephen recorded in Acts 7, a young man named Saul was present and participated indirectly as custodian of the clothes of the witnesses who stoned Stephen to death (7:58). Then as a preface to the story of Saul's conversion, Luke cites him as "still breathing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples" (9:1). Thinking himself to be the defender of the truth, he actually was spiritually blind. At Saul's conversion, God caused him literally to be blinded in order to make him see the light.

When the light and voice from heaven confronted Saul, he asked "who are you, Lord?" Jesus answered: "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting" (v. 5). A second implied question from Saul: "Lord, what directions do you have for me?" He was told to go into Damascus and wait for instructions (v. 6). Another implied question of the new convert: "Lord, what plans do you have for my life?" Indirectly, the answer was channeled through Ananias: [You are] "my chosen instrument to carry my name before the Gentiles and their kings and before the people of Israel. I will show [you] how much [you] must suffer for my name" (vv. 15-16). These find their counterparts in our own conversion experience.

Today we are honored to have Dr. Ben Brown, Senior Pastor of the International Baptist Church of Singapore. God providentially led me to him when I was tasked to search for a new Senior Pastor for IBC almost three years ago.

Dr. Brown will develop an exposition of the narrative according to this guide:

1. Everyone has a _____.
2. No one is beyond _____.
3. Anyone can have _____.

From the example of Saul's conversion, perhaps today could be God's special appointment to make you a part of his family through the experience of the new birth. We shall be honored to be of assistance to you on this regard.