

2024 - Family Devo

Apr 28 - a



READ: Acts 9:10-19a

Main Idea: Jesus tells Ananias to go to Saul and help him regain his sight and receive the Holy Spirit. Ananias is afraid of Saul because of his reputation but is obedient to Jesus. Once Saul's sight is restored, he immediately goes and is baptized. Following his baptism to wash his sins away (Acts 22:16) having not eaten for 3 days, he finally eats and gains strength.

DISCUSS

Children: I think Ananias was worried that even that bright light, being blinded and talking to Jesus wouldn't be enough. He was still afraid to talk to Saul. He probably didn't believe that he had changed completely in only three days.

Teen: Did Ananias let fear of man guide his footsteps, or did he trust in God? Was God at work with the one he sent to deliver his word? Was he with the one whom he wanted to receive his word? What does this tell you about our God?

Adult: It is interesting that Ananias knew of Saul's past and what he planned for Damascus. Yet because the Lord said to go, he went. How often do we do that? Do we find excuses--like Moses--I don't know what to say; I'm not ready; can someone go with me? Do we have to be persuaded or begged? Why are we hesitant?

PRAY

MEMORIZE

Isaiah 40:31 (ESV)
But they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.



2024 - Family Devo

Apr 28 - b

READ: Acts 9:19b-25

Main Idea: After Saul's conversion he stays in Damascus and immediately starts trying to convince those in the synagogues that Jesus is the Son of God. People were amazed at his instant transformation from persecuting Christians to becoming one. Eventually the Jews plotted to kill him but his friends helped him escape by lowering him in a basket over the city wall.

DISCUSS

Children: I wonder how those people felt? One day Saul is throwing their family and friends in jail and killing others, and now all of a sudden, he's changed his entire belief. He must have been very convincing because he was able to persuade the people and then make all his old friends mad enough to kill him. How do you think that works? One day – you are in charge and sending people to jail and having them killed. A few days later you have to sneak out of town just to stay alive.

Teen: Did Saul let past mistakes stop him from sharing Jesus with others? Did Saul still have a positive influence with those he taught, even though he had not been a follower of Jesus. Is there anything that should stop us from telling others about Jesus?

Adult: Saul now speaks with astonishing power and logic and is able to prove that Jesus is the Messiah. Yet the Christians were surely leery of him. Would you have thought that this was a ploy to find more people to put to death? Would you have trusted him? Do you think he spent hours reviewing everything he had learned in the synagogue and thinking "that's what that means?" And an irony is that Saul learns some of the Jews planned to kill him. Saul the persecutor of Christians is now marked for death, maybe by some of the same Jews who helped him.

PRAY

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