

4. There is a direct link between Paul's bold speech and his suffering. Review Acts 9:15-16, 19-30. Recount how Saul suffers for Jesus' name.

a. What was ironic about the way Saul *exited* Damascus (Acts 9:25)? How had he intended to exit the city (9:2)? According to 2 Corinthians 11:30-33, how did Paul feel about this incident in his life? What lesson does this example offer us?

b. How do you feel about the idea that Jesus may call us to suffer for his reputation? How can we support one another in facing such suffering?

Sermon Notes

"Saved to Serve and Suffer"

Acts 9:10-31

January 6, 2019

Let's Pray:

For our missionaries:

Howard and Marilynn Plucar - ReachGlobal Europe and Asia
Pray deepening relationships; wisdom and sensitivity from the Holy Spirit in every conversation with missions staff, so as to be that encouraging "ministry of presence" to each person.

Growth Group Homework

For the week of 01-06-19

Getting Started:

1. For what purpose(s) does Jesus save us?

Digging Deeper:

Read Acts 9:1-31. Since we are retracing the same passage from last week, feel free to review and discuss last week's questions if you did not get to finish.

2. We can learn much from this passage about the church and about Christians. For example, note the various different names given to Christians in Acts 9:1-31 (I count at least six, including phrases). As you list each name, also note what distinct feature that name emphasizes about being a Christian.

9:1 (also 9:10, 19, 25, 26)

9:2

9:13

9:14, 21

9:17, 30

9:31

Write a summary paragraph of what the church is based on these names.

3. Luke uses a unique term to describe Paul's speaking in both 9:27 and 28. Look up all 9 occurrences of this term in the NT listed below.

- a. How is it translated in each case? What do you learn about this type of speech from each passage?

Acts 9:27

Acts 9:28

Acts 13:46

Acts 14:3

Acts 18:26

Acts 19:8

Acts 26:26

Eph. 6:20

1 Thess. 2:2

- b. Are all Christians supposed to speak this way, or is this only for special leaders like Saul? How would you decide?