



**Teaching Notes:** Daren Dirksen  
July 31, 2011

**How It Changes Everything!**

## desert breeze community church

### Encounter With God Acts 9:1-31

On a journey to Damascus to persecute Christian men and women to the death, Saul has an Encounter with God that results in his conversion. In this encounter we see an amazing example of the glory and beauty of Jesus displayed. (1 Tim 1:16)

**Conversion is an encounter with God that is transmissional.**

**1) A converted person is a transformed person. (vs. 1-19a)**

- a. **Moved from alienation and hostility.** (vs. 1-9, Col. 1:21, Rom 8:7)
- b. **Moved into relationship and humble hope.** (vs. 4, 10-19a, 22:16, Col. 1:22)

“A long term way to foster humility is to study the doctrines of grace. Study the doctrines of election, calling, justification, perseverance – and the effect will be humility. Why? because the doctrines of grace leave no room for self-congratulation, no room for self-glorification... Our salvation, from first to last, is truly all of grace – and the effect of this grace understood is humility. “ – CJ Mahaney in “Humility”

**1) A converted person is a commissioned person. (vs. 15,19b-31 Gal 1:13-24)**

- b. **Our lives are not about us, they are about His glory.** (Col. 3:23)

- a. **Vision is huge, but it is not the satisfier of your soul.** (Ps. 62:5-8, 33:20)

**Suggested reading for a deeper look into the grace of God in conversion:**

“Redemption Accomplished and Applied” by John Murray  
“Finally Alive” by John Piper



# Growing

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- What reasons do you have for why God should be praised?
- Read Acts 9:1-19. What stands out to you about the grace of God in the conversion of Saul?
- A converted life is a **transformed life**. Read Col 1:21, Rom 8:6-8. According to these verses why would an unconverted life need to be transformed?
- Read Col 1:22, Rom 5:6-10, 8:9-11. What does Jesus do for the hostile and alienated? Has this made a difference in your life? If so, how? If not, why? Ask God to let you see who He is, and what He has done, more clearly than you ever have before.
- In Acts 9:1-19, what can you learn from the big changes and new relationships that became evident in Saul's life?
- A converted life is a **commissioned life**. Read Acts 9:15, 20-31. What stands out to you?
- Are you waiting as you go through a desert season? Have you failed? Is there uncertainty or obscurity in your life? If you are willing, share that.
- Vision is huge, but it is not the satisfier of your soul. According to Psalm 33:20-23 who is the satisfier of your soul? Meditate on these verses and ask God to let you see who Jesus is and what He has done, more clearly than you ever have before.