

Goldstone Church

Small Group Questions

Acts 9:10-19

For Starting

- Imagine living in a world where talking to another person was not allowed. What do you think that would look like?
- What do you think are the qualities that make a good friend?
- How often do you *think* about Prayer?
- Do you think that Christians are required to pray? Why? See 1 Samuel 12:23; 1 Thessalonians 5:17; Luke 18:1.
- What word or phrase stands out when you read this passage?

For Reviewing

- Where was Ananias when God spoke to him (v.10)?
- Who did God tell Ananias to see (v.11)? What was he doing?
- How would the man know that Ananias was God-sent (v.12)?
- Describe how Ananias responded to God (v.13-14).
- For what task/s had God chosen the man to do (v.15-16)?
- Where did Ananias go (v.17)? What did he do?
- What happened to the man that Ananias prayed for (v.18a)?
- What did the man do next (v.18b-19)?

For Discussion

- "*The hunted do not usually minister to the hunter*". What does this tell us of Ananias' personal relationship with God? What do you think was going through Ananias' mind as he met Paul?
- In what way/s is Ananias' behaviour an "act of faith"? Did it help that God had spoken to Ananias through a vision?
- How would you feel if God wanted you to meet with someone known for killing Christians? Would you do it? Why, or why not?
- Do you think Ananias was a role model for Saul? Is he a role model for Christians today?
- God said, "*I will show him how much he must suffer for my name.*" (v.16). Why do you think God said this? Does it apply today?
- "*Fear turned to compassion as Ananias laid his hand on Saul and said, 'Brother Saul.'*" Do you agree/disagree? Why, or why not?
- Following Saul's sight being restored, he was baptised without delay. What part does baptism play in the life of Christians today?
- You could end by reading together Acts 9:11.

Acts 9:10-19 (NIVUK)

¹⁰ In Damascus there was a disciple named Ananias. The Lord called to him in a vision, “Ananias!”

“Yes, Lord,” he answered.

¹¹ The Lord told him, “Go to the house of Judas on Straight Street and ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul, for he is praying. ¹² In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias come and place his hands on him to restore his sight.”

¹³ “Lord,” Ananias answered, “I have heard many reports about this man and all the harm he has done to your holy people in Jerusalem. ¹⁴ And he has come here with authority from the chief priests to arrest all who call on your name.”

¹⁵ But the Lord said to Ananias, “Go! This man is my chosen instrument to proclaim my name to the Gentiles and their kings and to the people of Israel. ¹⁶ I will show him how much he must suffer for my name.”

¹⁷ Then Ananias went to the house and entered it. Placing his hands on Saul, he said, “Brother Saul, the Lord – Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you were coming here – has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit.”

¹⁸ Immediately, something like scales fell from Saul’s eyes, and he could see again. He got up and was baptised, ¹⁹ and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

