

**Small group questions – 29<sup>th</sup> June 2018**  
**Chosen: Paul**

Read Acts 9: 1 – 21

Take some time to share the story of how you first came to know Jesus and put your trust in him. It doesn't matter if it's not dramatic like Paul's story!!

1. Why do you think God chose Paul rather than someone more sympathetic? Why did he have such a dramatic encounter with the Lord? How would this have helped him as he pursued the ministry he was called to?
2. Why do you think Paul was blinded by this encounter?
3. In this story, Ananias is given a commission to serve God by meeting with Paul and healing him. He is then given a message to deliver to Paul to explain what God was calling him to do. How can we be those who speak into the lives of others? Has anyone ever encouraged you to serve God, perhaps by pointing out something that you are good at, or sharing a scripture?
4. Again we see that there is a cost to the call on Paul's life (see 2 Corinthians 11: 23 – 33 for a summary of some of the things he endured!). Why do you think he continued? What motivated him? What did he gain? What helps you to persevere when life is difficult and we encounter opposition?
5. Read vs 20. Do you find this surprising? His listeners clearly did! This is an example of how clearly transformational an encounter with Jesus is! If you have internet access watch the Cardboard Testimonies on [https://youtu.be/Vrx-tJz\\_BtM](https://youtu.be/Vrx-tJz_BtM) What do you think would be Paul's Cardboard Testimony? What would your cardboard testimony be?

6. Sometimes others don't understand the change in us and may be cynical of it. Barnabus was an encourager who came alongside Paul. What can we learn from this? Is there someone God is calling you to come alongside to champion?

Praise God that there is no-one beyond his reach, that he rescues and saves and can give us a life of purpose! Use vs 31 to pray for our church and community.

PTO

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