

SESSION 2

LIGHT TRANSFORMS

BACKGROUND

When we begin to follow Jesus, we experience a change into someone new. And because we have been changed, we have a story to tell because we have been powerfully changed from death to life by the gospel of Christ. One powerful story of radical change in Scripture is of Saul on the road to Damascus. In an instant Saul was transformed from a persecutor of the church to one of its greatest champions.

WATCH SESSION 2 VIDEO

1. Light _____ truth.
2. Saul was totally _____ that what he was doing was good for God.
3. When we are in groups with other believers, someone will say something that you need to hear at the _____ moment.

Answer Guide: 1. Reveals 2. Convinced 3. Right

DISCUSS

What was one thing that encouraged you from the video?
Challenged you? Confused you?

Pastor Brady discusses how our lives can sometimes get “out of tune” with what God desires. When has there been a time that you experienced being out of tune and didn’t realize it? What helped you to get back in tune with God?

Pastor Brady used the illustration of how it takes just a few moments for a stick to be removed from a fire before it cools off. Would you say that your fire is burning for the Lord or would you say that it is cooling off? What are some things that you need to do to stay in the

fire for the Lord?

Pastor Brady shares about the value of having people speak into your life. Who is someone that has permission to say the hard things to you? What was the last thing they said to you that was hard to hear but it helped you?

Pastor Brady shared some practical situations that you may encounter that show how you can be a light. What are some situations you have personally experienced where you have had the chance to be a light recently? What impact did it make?

DIG DEEPER

- **Read Acts 9:3-9** // *3 As he was traveling, it happened that he was approaching Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him; 4 and he fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?" 5 And he said, "Who are You, Lord?" And He said, "I am Jesus whom you are persecuting, 6 but get up and enter the city, and it will be told you what you must do." 7 The men who traveled with him stood speechless, hearing the voice but seeing no one. 8 Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; and leading him by the hand, they brought him into Damascus. 9 And he was three days without sight, and neither ate nor drank.*

How do you think Saul felt when confronted by Jesus? How would you respond if this had been you?

Why do you think Saul was struck blind? What might God have been trying to teach him through blindness?

What are the ways that we act like Saul in our lives (before or after conversion)?

- **Read Acts 9:10-16** // *10 Now there was a disciple at Damascus named Ananias; and the Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." And he said, "Here I am, Lord." 11 And the Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight,*

and inquire at the house of Judas for a man from Tarsus named Saul, for he is praying, 12 and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him, so that he might regain his sight.” 13 But Ananias answered, “Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much harm he did to Your saints at Jerusalem; 14 and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on Your name.” 15 But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is a chosen instrument of Mine, to bear My name before the Gentiles and kings and the sons of Israel; 16 for I will show him how much he must suffer for My name’s sake.”

Why didn't the Lord restore Saul's sight without Ananias's involvement?

Saul needed Ananias; what does this tell us about what God desires for spiritual growth to happen?

- **Read Acts 9:17-19** // *17 So Ananias departed and entered the house, and after laying his hands on him said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road by which you were coming, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” 18 And immediately there fell from his eyes something like scales, and he regained his sight, and he got up and was baptized; 19 and he took food and was strengthened.*

How did Ananias demonstrate obedience? How did this impact Saul's life later on?

What does this story reflect about the change in Saul's life? How did Saul respond after his physical healing?

DO

Paul tells the story of his conversion several times in the rest of the book of Acts. What is your story? How could you share it this week with someone who has not believed the gospel?

Is there anyone that you feel is irredeemable? How does Saul's story show us that God can change the hardest of hearts?

Ananias played an important role in discipling Paul. Who in your life could you take the time to disciple?

Notes for Personal Reflection:
