



Small Group Questions: The Certainty of Uncertainty

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Read

Acts 9: 1 – 6, 10 – 22; 2 Corinthians 11:24 – 28; John 16:33

Reflect

In the beginning of Acts 9, Saul continues his plans to eradicate Christianity. But along the road to Damascus, he has an encounter with Jesus that blinds him. He is told to go to the city and await instructions—his mission now completely redirected. God also instructs the disciple, Ananias, to go to Saul and lay hands on him to restore his sight. Ananias fears Saul—one of the worst persecutors of the church—but both men choose to accept God's security rather than earthly safety.

Pastor Roy gives us several things to be certain of in uncertain times:

1. There's a higher value in the kingdom of God than safety.
 - a. Have you experienced times when you felt God should have provided protection and safety in certain ways and He didn't? How did you respond? How would you respond now?
 - b. What does it mean to be safe? What is your definition?
2. God can change anyone.
 - a. God chooses Saul as his instrument to proclaim the Good News to the Gentiles, their kings, and the people of Israel. Why do you think God chose Saul?
 - b. What stands out most to you in the story of Paul's conversion?
3. We still have a part to play in God's mission.
 - a. In the early church, the disciples and apostles knew that in signing up for the cause, great sacrifice might be required of them. How does it make you feel to know the mission has not changed—that God has put the mission in your hands?
4. God will not abandon his people and his church.
 - a. When Christ appears before Saul, He says, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute Me?" Jesus identifies so closely with his people being severely persecuted that He uses "Me" rather than "my people". What encouragement and security does that offer you?

So what do we do with this?

1. Pray for those who persecute.
 - a. Ananias was told by God to go and lay hands on the great persecutor of the faith. He obeys. What can we learn from Ananias's example?
2. Be bold and go!
 - a. Ananias made himself vulnerable in going to Saul. But consider how his obedience and boldness helped in the conversion of the greatest missionary of the faith. What if Ananias had not been obedient? What if we are not obedient?
3. See all of your life as something God wants to use for the mission.
 - a. How willing are you to let God use you to lead others to Christ?

Respond

What is your next step? Where is God leading you? How can your small group support you and hold you accountable in this?