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As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" "Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked. "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting," he replied. "Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do." The men traveling with Saul stood there speechless; they heard the sound but did not see anyone. Saul got up from the ground, but when he opened his eyes he could see nothing. So they led him by the hand into Damascus. For three days he was blind, and did not eat or drink anything.

Acts 9:3-9 (NIV)

WHEN WE ENCOUNTER JESUS...

1. WE WALK AWAY WITH A CLEARER PERSPECTIVE OF WHO GOD IS

I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you really know me, you will know my Father as well.

John 14:6-7 (NIV)

We look at the Son and see the God who cannot be seen. We look at this Son and see God's original purpose in everything created. For everything, absolutely everything, above and below, visible and invisible, rank after rank after rank of angels - Everything got started in him and finds its purpose in him.

Colossians 1:15 (MSG)

Jesus is the visible image of the invisible God.

Colossians 1:15 (NLT)

2. WE WALK AWAY WITH A CLEARER PERSPECTIVE OF WHO WE ARE

"We can never know who or what we are until we at least know something of who God is."
-AW Tozer

Woe to me... for I am a man of unclean lips and my eyes have seen the King, the Lord Almighty.

Isaiah 6:5 (NIV)

Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man.

Luke 5:8 (NIV)

"To admit that there is One who lies beyond us, Who exists outside all of our categories, Who will not be dismissed with a name, Who will not appear before the bar of our reason, Nor submit to our curious inquiries; This requires a great deal of humility - more than most of us possess. So we save face by thinking God down to our level."

-AW Tozer, *The Knowledge of the Holy*

3. WE WILL ALSO BEGIN TO SEE OUR CHALLENGES MORE CLEARLY

The men traveling with Saul stood there speechless; They heard the sound but did not see anyone. Saul got up from the ground but when he opened his eyes he could see nothing So they led him by the hand into Damascus. For three days he was blind, and did not eat or drink anything.

Acts 9:7-9 (NIV)

If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake, you will save it.

Matthew 16:25 (NIV)

4. WE WALK AWAY SEEING OUR PURPOSE MORE CLEARLY

Now get up and go into the city; And you will be told what you must do.

Acts 9:6 (NIV)

*"There are two great days in a person's life:
The first is the day they are born
And the second is the day they find out why." - William Barclay*