

# The Life Challenge

*"I came that they may have life and have it abundantly." John 10:10*

**Series:** Acts: Spirit Led. Mission Driven.  
**Title:** Mind Boggling Encounters  
**Speaker:** Ron Voth  
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## DISCUSSION

Read Acts 9:1-20 out loud as a group again.

1. What can one learn about God from this passage?
2. What responses does this passage inspire people to make?
3. Does anything in the text bother you? Why?

### **The sermon had two types of application:**

1. A worship response because of how God is revealed in the text.
  - A. He is expressed in the crucified and resurrected Jesus Christ
    - i. To what degree is your Christianity centered on the resurrected person of Jesus Christ?
    - ii. What distracts from this focus on Jesus? What passions, cultural factors, religious activities, etc?
  - B. He is sovereign
    - i. Where you bothered or encouraged by the focus on God's sovereign work with Saul? Why? What presuppositions influenced this?
    - ii. How can one be open to God's initiative? What do we need to stop doing? How do we listen and look for it? How do we help each other build expectation for it?
  - C. He is gracious
    - i. Did this account sharpen your understanding of God's grace? How did it do so? Share moments when you have had grace awakenings in your life.
2. A call to accept forgiveness/salvation inspired by Paul's conversion.

Saul was an illustration of Christ's patience and grace. If he could be rescued, there's hope for all.

# DISCUSSION

A. Saul was an illustration of Christ's patience and grace. If he could be rescued, there's hope for all.

- i. Note how this also reinforces Saul's call to spread the good news to the Gentiles
- ii. Would anyone like to share how they were freed to confess and enter grace as a result of this message?
- iii. Who are the "gentiles" in your life that God's is calling you to reach out to?

### 3. Saul's call

This passage also points to God's call of Saul to be his witness. Have any of you heard or been hearing God's voice calling you to specific service for Him? What wisdoms are there for discerning this call from God. To what degree could a life group be part of the discernment of such a call?