



Rock Bridge Small Group Discussion Guide Fresh Start – Part 4 PARTICIPANT GUIDE

Into the Word: Read Acts 9:1-22

- a) Why was Paul doing what he was doing to persecute the church? What was going on in him?
- b) While not documented, the church in that day was certainly praying for Paul. What do you think their prayers were like, and how was Jesus' appearance to Paul an answer to those prayers?
- c) The church played several roles in this story. They were the ones being persecuted and they forgave. They were the ones praying, and God miraculously answered them, turning their enemy into a tremendous ally. Annanias also went as a brother to Paul, courageously showing mercy to Paul so he could be healed. How can WE as the church show similar love to people around us?
- D) Jesus clearly tells us to pray for our enemies, and to bless them. He says this because their need is spiritual (separation from Him) that goes beyond any other situation. Is there a difficult person in your life that you consider an enemy? How are you praying for them?

Apply & Obey the Word:

- 1) How is the church and community so crucial to our lives? Why was community so important for the paralytic, and also for Paul in his transformation?
- 2) We all have life situations going on right now that we think are our biggest need, but often the real need is deeper and spiritual. What might be your deeper need right now? Courage? Knowing God's love more? Wisdom? Where do you need more of God?
- 3) Share specifically about your "fresh start" in this season, and what God has been doing in you. Give a testimony of how He has been moving in you.

Prayer Time:

- a) *Pray as a group for the Be Like Jesus Campaign beginning next week. Pray for people to connect to community and be transformed!*