

Community Groups are the primary vehicle for discipleship at The Gathering. It is through the interaction that takes place in each of these groups that will enable people to begin moving from being drawn to God to a life that is being deepened by God. Use it as a resource to lead your group in discovering, owning, and applying the truths of God's Word. There may be aspects you do not want to use and there may be instances where you just want to focus on a particular point or truth. Some questions may bring out emotions and cause people to dwell on an aspect of their relationship with God. Use this as a flexible teaching tool not a rigid group task list.

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## Consider...

Use the summary and discussion to review and apply this week's message:

### Message Summary

This week we returned to our ongoing journey through the history of the early church as recorded in Acts. Called re|ACTS because it's all about our response regarding what we read in Acts, it is a journey that challenges us to do what they early church did in order for God to do now what he did then. This week we looked at the conversion of Saul in Acts 9 and learned the Big Idea that **conversion leads to a new version of us**. In other words, true conversion results in true change, which is why the 3 main components of any conversion are:

1. **Life before meeting Jesus.** Before he met Jesus, Saul was a rebel against the truth, running as fast as he could away from Jesus and totally cold toward the souls of others. In other words, according to Romans 1:18-32, he was just like us. We want to believe that there is good in our souls apart from Jesus, but before we met him, we were his enemies (see Romans 5:6-8).
2. **Life while meeting Jesus.** Meeting Jesus isn't always what we think it will be, is it? Sometimes, just like Saul, it comes unexpectedly and is very humbling. But the great news is that it does come! None of us are beyond the saving reach of Jesus (see Isaiah 59:1)!
3. **Life since meeting Jesus.** Basically, if we've truly met Jesus, everything changes. We are made new (2 Corinthians 5:17) and our hearts, thoughts, and actions begin to change. In fact, it is the change that is the greatest testimony to others that we've met and chosen to follow Jesus!

### Discuss

Use the following questions to review and apply the points learned in the message.

- What was one helpful, eye-opening, or troubling insight or principle from this week's message?
- If you had to give a one sentence definition of "conversion" what would it be?
- How would you describe your life before you met Jesus? What would you say is the biggest change in your life since meeting Jesus? What would the people closest to you say is the biggest change?
- Saul's conversion was unexpected, undeniable, humbling and public. Which of those terms is most like your conversion? Which is the least like your conversion?
- What current interruptions in your life could God be using to point you to Jesus? How does this change your response to the distractions that can so often get the best of us?
- Pastor Paul made the following statement: It is not possible to meet Jesus and stay the same. Discuss the impact of that truth on our daily walk with Jesus.
- Saul almost got to Damascus but Jesus saved him first. What did Jesus spare you from when you met Jesus?
- Read 2 Corinthians 13:5 and discuss the value of examining ourselves concerning the faith that we claim. What are some of the difficulties that come from this examination?