

**FOOD TIME:** (30-45 minutes) – Remember to give some direction for this time.

**MEETING TIME:** (45 minutes)

Paul is speaking here to the Jewish high council, and he is reliving the moment of conversion to them. This is a retelling of Acts 9, but there is so much more detail into the instruction that he receives from Jesus. There are two things to look for in this chapter, the first is the call to be bold from Jesus, and the second is the humility that Paul shows as he recognizes the shortcomings of sin in his past life.

**READ Acts 22:6-21**

**6** "Now it happened, as I journeyed to Damascus at about noon, suddenly a great light from heaven shone around me. **7** And I fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to me, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?' **8** So I answered, 'Who are You Lord?' And He said to me, 'I am Jesus of Nazareth, whom you are persecuting.' **9** And those who were with me indeed saw the light and were afraid, but they did not hear the voice of Him who spoke to me. **10** So I said, 'What shall I do Lord?' And the Lord said to me, 'Arise and go into Damascus, and there you will be told all things which you are appointed to do.' **11** And since I could not see for the glory of that light, being led by the hand of those who were with me, I came into Damascus. **12** Then a certain Ananias, a devout man according to the law, having a good testimony with all the Jews who dwelt there, **13** came to me; and he stood and said to me, 'Brother Saul, receive your sight.' And at that same hour I looked up at him. **14** Then he said, 'The God of our fathers has chosen you that you should know His will, and see the Just One, and hear the voice of His mouth. **15** For you will be His witness to all men of what you have seen and heard. **16** And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord.' **17** Now it happened, when I returned to Jerusalem and was praying in the temple, that I was in a trance **18** and saw Him saying to me, 'Make haste and get out of Jerusalem quickly, for they will not receive your testimony concerning me.' **19** So I said, 'Lord, they know that in every synagogue I imprisoned and beat those who believe on You. **20** And when the blood of Your martyr Stephen was shed, I also was standing by consenting to his death, and guarding the clothes of those who were killing him.' **21** Then he said to me, 'Depart, for I will send you far from here to the Gentiles.'"

**FACILITATE Discussion Questions**

1. Where does Paul show confidence in the Lord through this testimony?
2. How can we use Paul's testimony to give ourselves or other believers confidence in what God is doing?
3. Verse 16 is great because Ananias questions why Paul is waiting. How can we use this to encourage others?
4. Paul's humility is shown here in his confession of sin, how has the Lord helped you through the struggle of sin in your life?
5. What can we do to show humility like Paul in our everyday lives?

**PRAY-** Take the last 10 minutes to pray about the needs of the group.

**APPLICATION-** This is a very detailed and powerful testimony; one that Paul is not afraid to give because it transformed his life to live for God. As you come across things this week, think about how God has transformed you and has created your own testimony in your life. Then think about it and how you might be able to use it to show the power of God's love to those who may not know who He is yet.