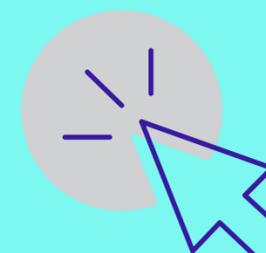




MISSION POSSIBLE

your mission should you choose to accept it...



SCRIPTURES

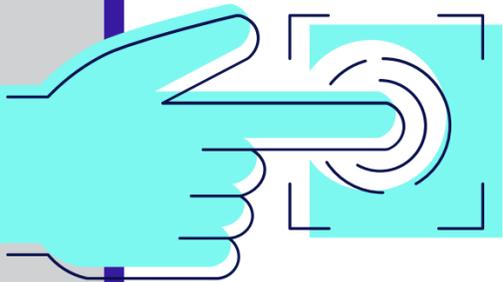
(MATTHEW 28:16-20, ESV)

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them.

And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them,

“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”





(MARK 16:14-20, ESV)

Afterward he appeared to the eleven themselves as they were reclining at table, and he rebuked them for their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they had not believed those who saw him after he had risen.

And he said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned. And these signs will accompany those who believe: in my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues; they will pick up serpents with their hands; and if they drink any deadly poison, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover."

So then the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God. And they went out and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the message by accompanying signs.



(ACTS 9:1-9 ESV)

But Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he went on his way, he approached Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven shone around him. And falling to the ground he heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?" And he said, "Who are you, Lord?" And he said, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But rise and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." The men who were traveling with him stood speechless, hearing the voice but seeing no one. Saul rose from the ground, and although his eyes were opened, he saw nothing. So they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. And for three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank. Now there was a disciple at Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." And he said, "Here I am, Lord." And the Lord said to him, "Rise and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul, for behold, he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight."



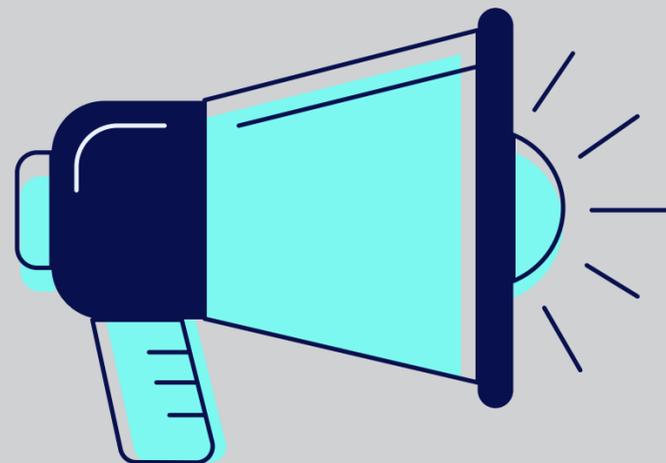


(ACTS 9:1-9 ESV)

But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints at Jerusalem. And here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on your name." But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel. For I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." So Ananias departed and entered the house. And laying his hands on him he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus who appeared to you on the road by which you came has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he rose and was baptized; and taking food, he was strengthened.

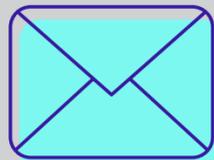


MEMORY VERSE



**“And he said to them, “Go into all the world
and proclaim the gospel to the whole
creation.”**

(MARK 16:15, ESV)



STORY RECAP

As we've gone through this theme of the Great Commission we looked at some stories about Paul who taught so many people about Jesus. Well, Paul wasn't always someone who lived for God... He had a very interesting past. He was named Saul when he was born, brought up in a wealthy Jewish family, studied the Torah (The Jewish Bible) and learned his family trade of tent making. When he turned 13, he trained under one of the most famous rabbis of the time, to become a Pharisee. Pharisees were men who knew and stuck to all the laws in the scriptures. They didn't believe that Jesus was God's son and they didn't believe in the Holy Spirit. After Jesus died, rose and went up to heaven, many of his disciples went around spreading the Good News to everyone they met. This made Pharisees like Saul very angry! How could people say that Jesus was God? He went around hurting people who believed in Jesus! He went to the chief priest and asked for letters giving him permission to arrest any followers of Jesus.



Followers of Jesus were known as people of “The Way” back then, because Jesus had said, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” Once Saul had the letters granting him permission to arrest any followers of the Way, he started a trip to the city of Damascus. He went ready to stop anyone spreading the news about Jesus. While he was on his mission, a light from heaven suddenly shone all around him! He got such a fright that he fell to the ground when he heard a voice saying, “Saul! Saul! Why are you treating me badly?”

Saul said, “Who are you, Lord?”

“I am Jesus – the one you are fighting against!” Jesus answered. “Get up and go to the city. When you are there, I will tell you what to do.” When Saul stood up, he realised that he couldn’t see anything even though both of his eyes were open!

What kind of thoughts do you think went through Saul’s head at this time? All along he’d been hurting Christians because he believed they were wrong, but now he discovered that Jesus is real!



There was a believer named Ananias who was staying in Damascus and God said to him, "Go over to Straight Street and ask for a man named Saul. I want you to go pray for him."

Ananias did not want to go! He had heard about Saul and the way that he fought against believers!

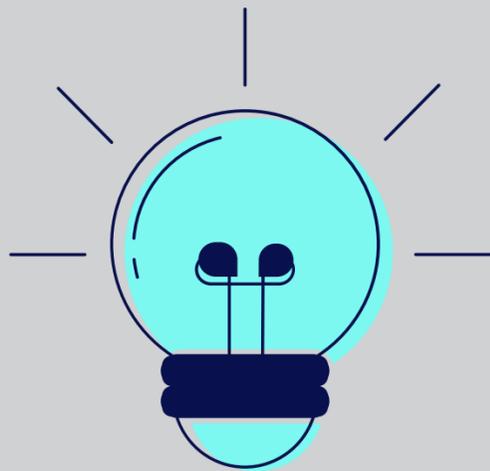
But God said, "I have chosen Saul to spread my message. It's not going to be an easy life for him." So Ananias went and found Saul. Saul had been blind for three days and had nothing to eat or drink the whole time. He had just been praying to God. Ananias prayed for Saul and said, "The Lord Jesus who appeared to you on the road sent me to pray for you so that you will be able to see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit. Immediately, scales fell off Saul's eyes and he could see. He got up and was baptised. Then he ate and drank to build up his strength."



HOW THIS APPLIES

Saul immediately started preaching about Jesus. He was a completely changed man! He wanted to learn more about Jesus and tell the world what he had learned! Soon, he decided to change his name to Paul, a common Roman name. This would help him reach Roman's who didn't know Jesus better. Remember how last week we saw that God can use any circumstance for his glory - even a prison? Well, this week we learn that God can use any person for his glory! It doesn't matter what we think we've done wrong and if others think we don't deserve it... God chooses the workers for his team and no one is disqualified!

MAIN POINTS



GOD CHOOSES TO USE ORDINARY
PEOPLE TO BUILD HIS KINGDOM
AND SPREAD THE GOSPEL

WE WANT TO BE GOD SEEKERS

AS GOD REVEALS HIMSELF TO US,
OUR FAITH IN HIM GROWS AND WE
WANT TO OBEY HIM

WEEK 6
MISSION
COMPLETE

SEE YOU NEXT WEEK AGENT!

