

Introduction

Jesus redeems our past and changes our futures. The man we know as the Apostle Paul started out as a persecutor of the church but after meeting Jesus, his life and future would radically change. But it wasn't a one-time change, he continued to grow for the rest of his life.

Discussion Questions

- 1. Can you think of a time when you were absolutely convinced you were right about something, then it turns out you weren't?
- 2. Often Christians think that Saul's name was changed to Paul by Jesus. Why is it important that we understand that while it sounds good-it isn't actually biblical?
- 3. Read Acts 9:1-9 What do you think is the primary emotion Paul is feeling? What do you think about him being 100% anti-Jesus and then 100% Jesus preacher in such a short time?
- 4. Read Philippians 3:4-6 How was pride a motivating factor in Paul's younger years? Later he would write he was the "least of all the apostles" (1 Cor. 15:9), "least of all the Lord's people" (Ephesians 3:8), and the "worst of sinners" (1 Tim. 1:15). How does the progression of humility help Paul in his ministry? Anything we can learn from that ourselves?
- 5. Read 1 Corinthians 9:22 What does being all things to all people look like? What is the motivating factor? What does loving someone and also sharing Jesus with them look like?
- 6. We know that Paul parted company with Barnabas because of a disagreement over Mark. Later he wants Mark to be a part of his ministry. He also mentors Timothy and Titus. Why was it so important that he poured into them?
- 7. How can you or are you pouring into the next generation of faith?

Shaping Your Mind Philippians 3:7-8 But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things.

Moving Forward – Don't strive to forget your past, marvel at how it has been redeemed.