

Series: Testimony

Part Two: Jesus in the Spotlight

Sunday May 29, 2016

1. Acts 9:1-19

2. Similarities between Acts 9:1-19, Acts 22:3-21, and Acts 26:1-26:

- a. Paul's status before his conversion.
- b. Paul's conversion took place along the road to Damascus where he was headed from Jerusalem.
- c. Each account mentions a powerful light from heaven.
- d. The dialogue between Jesus and Paul.
- e. All three versions of Paul's story of conversion also include his call to ministry.

3. How does Paul move himself out of the way so that we can see Jesus?

- a. Paul keeps Jesus central to his story by naming him in it.
- b. Paul keeps Jesus central to his story by doing what Jesus tells him to do.
- c. Paul keeps Jesus central to his story by letting Jesus speak for himself.

4. How will we reflect *the light of the world* into our world? How might we let Jesus speak for himself in our conversations with others? Memorized verses? Paraphrased thoughts? Stories about him to illustrate a point? Jesus as conversation starter?

Study Notes

DISCUSSION

1. Why do you think Luke tells the story of Paul's conversion three times in the book of Acts?

2. How has the testimony of others affected you? How has your testimony affected others?

INTO THE BIBLE

3. Take some time to read all three versions of Paul's conversion story: Acts 9:1-19, Acts 22:3-21, Acts 26:1-26.

a. What similarities to you notice?

b. What differences do you notice?

c. How do you reconcile such differences as: who actually saw the light from heaven and heard the voice, and where exactly did Paul receive his calling? Are these differences important? Why? Why not?

d. What impact does Paul's testimony have on you?

APPLICATION

4. Share your story of coming to faith with your group.

5. What is God doing in your life (or around you) right now – and how can you talk about that in such a way as to keep Jesus at the center of the story AND in such a way as people would receive it?