Murray Baptist Church – 6/30/20 – Bible Study Outline

Themes (Acts Chapter 9)

1. The **Conversion Experience of Saul** (he will become Paul later in Acts)
   1. Paul’s purpose was to arrest and imprison those who were Christians
   2. On his way to what he wanted, God got Saul’s attention
   3. Who did Saul have an encounter with? (v.5)
   4. “Go” – God’s reply requires obedience (v.6)
   5. The Christian journey is a process (vs.7-9)
2. The Role of Ananias (The Conversion of Ananias’s attitude regarding Paul)
   1. God called to Ananias in a vision (v.10) – how did Ananias respond?
   2. God provides direction (11-12)
   3. Ananias questions Saul’s character and motives (13-14)
   4. God speaks of purposes for Saul’s life that Ananias doesn’t know about (v.15)
   5. Suffering and sacrifice will be part of Christian success (v.16), this applies to both Saul and to some degree Ananias
   6. Sometimes we’ll see the results of what God is doing in the life of someone else (v.18), many times we won’t
   7. It is important to get spiritual nourishment as much as physical nourishment (v.19)
   8. Fellowship is an important aspect of our growth and development as human beings and as Christians. What are some ways we can better facilitate this?
3. The individuality and the universality of the conversion experience
   1. It was a group who was traveling and interacting together
   2. God did something to cause the group to stop but the experience only impacted Saul (v.7). All in the same storm but the people are in different boats. Not every situation will be interpreted the same even if the same people are experiencing the same thing.
   3. The church is made up of individual believers in Jesus Christ. The Church should have power but it has power because of the gifts and empowering of each person.
4. When is something immediate in the Bible and when isn’t it? (v.20)
   1. Did Paul immediately start preaching in the synagogues? (Cross reference – Galatians 1:13-24, other background on Paul – Philippians 3:4-6)
   2. Take it as literal unless the text gives us reason to think otherwise
5. God converts/transforms individuals…
   1. Some will believe it, others may not, but both might be threatened (v. 21-31)
   2. Astonishment that Saul has changed (v.21)
   3. Former acquaintances are threatened (vs.22-25)
   4. New acquaintances are unsure (vs. 26-28)
   5. New level, new devil (v.29-31)