



**FEAST OF ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL  
JUNE 29**

**ST. PAUL, THE APOSTLE**

St. Paul is born to a Jewish family in Tarsus, Cilicia (Western Turkey). He is named Saul and his Roman name is Paul, probably since his father became a Roman citizen. He was educated in Jerusalem and received a rigorous education on the law from Rabi Gamaliel. He was zealous in defending the Jewish faith. As a youth, he was present when St. Stephen was stoned and approved it. That day a great persecution of the Church began and he became a great persecutor of Christians.

Until one day on his way to Damascus... (Go to Acts 9: 3-6 and complete)

**Suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. <sup>4</sup> He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him,**

He asked:

And the voice:

**In that moment, Saul was converted to a Christian.**

Three years later, he goes to Jerusalem and meets **St. Peter**, one of the original 12 apostles whom Jesus appointed the head of the new Church, the 1<sup>st</sup> Pope. He remains with him 15 days.

Peter teaches him everything he lived and learned with Jesus and that Paul did not know.

Later he returns to Tarso and continues proclaiming his faith in the synagogue.

**I HAVE BEEN PLACED IN  
DEFENSE OF THE GOSPEL OF  
CHRIST.**

