

## #17 "The Greater Light-Saul's Conversion"

The Vineyard Church of Conroe Raymond McDonald September 21, 2014 Sermon Notes

I will send a great Helper to you from the Father, one known as the Spirit of truth. He comes from the Father and will point to the truth as it concerns Me. John 15:26 VOICE

# The Holy Spirit <u>POINTS US TO JESUS AS THE "TRUE NORTH" OF OUR LIVES</u>

When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

John 8:12

#### I. Acts 9:1-2 COURSE DETERMINED

<sup>1</sup> Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples. He went to the high priest <sup>2</sup> and asked him for letters to the synagogues in Damascus, so that if he found any there who belonged to the Way, whether men or women, he might take them as prisoners to Jerusalem.

## We all have A COURSE OF LIFE

### The Holy Spirit <u>DESIRES TO ORIENT US</u>

We can make our own plans, but the LORD gives the right answer. <sup>2</sup>People may be pure in their own eyes, but the LORD examines their motives. <sup>3</sup>Commit your actions to the LORD, and your plans will succeed.

Proverbs 16:1-3

NLT

#### II. Acts 9:3-9 CONVICTION OF DESTINATION/ REVEALS

<sup>3</sup> As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. <sup>4</sup> He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" <sup>5</sup> "Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked. "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting," he replied. <sup>6</sup> "Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do." <sup>7</sup> The men traveling with Saul stood there speechless; they heard the sound but did not see anyone. <sup>8</sup> Saul got up from the ground, but when he opened his eyes he could see nothing. So they led him by the hand into Damascus. <sup>9</sup> For three days he was blind, and did not eat or drink anything.

#### We all have A GUIDING PASSION

### The Holy Spirit REVEALS OUR MISDIRECTION

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. John 14:6

#### III. Acts 9:10-16 COMMUNITY BRINGS DEFINITION/ILLUMINATES

<sup>10</sup> In Damascus there was a disciple named Ananias. The Lord called to him in a vision, "Ananias!" "Yes, Lord," he answered. <sup>11</sup> The Lord told him, "Go to the house of Judas on Straight Street and ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul, for he is praying. <sup>12</sup> In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias come and place his hands on him to restore his sight." <sup>13</sup> "Lord," Ananias answered, "I have heard many reports about this man and all the harm he has done to your holy people in Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup> And he has come here with authority from the chief priests to arrest all who call on your name." <sup>15</sup> But the Lord said to Ananias, "Go! This man is my chosen instrument to proclaim my name to the Gentiles and their kings and to the people of Israel. <sup>16</sup> I will show him how much he must suffer for my name."

# We all have <u>RELATIONSHIPS & EXPERIENCES THAT</u> <u>DEFINE US</u>

# The Holy Spirit <u>ILLUMINATES OUR IDENTITY THROUGH</u> <u>CHRIST-CENTERED COMMUNITY</u>

But you are not like that, for you are a chosen people. You are royal priests, a holy nation, God's very own possession. As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for he called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light. <sup>10</sup> "Once you had no identity as a people; now you are God's people…" 1 Peter 2:9-10a NLT