

Discussion Notes

Global Work Sunday – March 9, 2014

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Saul the Persecutor became Paul the Apostle

- Saul was an ardent persecutor, and was happy to harm and resist Christianity.
- His conversation should remind us that even unbelievably hard hearts can be reached by Jesus, and give us hope for those around us.
- After Paul converts two key figures nurture him, encourage him, mentor him. Ananias and Barnabas. Both had different roles.
- Ananias' role reminds us that the word God has for us to join him in is not founded in talents or time, but the wiliness to say "yes", to obey God. Obedience brings about amazing results.
- Barnabas labored on his relationship with Paul, pouring into him, mentoring him, releasing him, and ultimately seeing Paul surpass his own influence.

Going/Sending/Giving (Redemption and Multiplication)

- We plant seeds, we water plants, we nurture plants, we start again.
- The first Christians saw growth because of three elements present in their communities:
 - They sent (Acts 13. 2-4)
 - They went (Acts 13)
 - They gave (Acts 11)
- Some of the first Christians knew they had to go, some of them knew they needed to send people, and some knew they had to give. They all worked together toward the same goal.
- This meant long term growth, and care for the Christian communities around the ancient world, but also meant the Gospel went all over the place.

Discussion Questions

- Who do you hold out hope for, who seems a little like Saul?
- Who's been like Ananias or Barnabas in your life?
- How have you nurtured (in big ways or small) recently? What's coming of that?
- How do you feel called to go, or send, or give?