TREK 1: "HIS STORY" PARENT GUIDE

Lesson 4.3: Saul of Tarsus

SCRIPTURE: ACTS 9:1-22

SUMMARY

Conversion is the complete change of belief and the way someone lives life. Saul was a Jewish man who ferociously persecuted the church, even leading in the stoning of an early believer named Stephen (Acts 8:1). Despite his background, God decided to dramatically confront Saul with Himself by blinding him on his journey to Damascus and appearing to him in the sky. At this time, Saul was converted to Jesus, and later his physical eyes were opened again. But the conversion of Saul (his new name became Paul), was more about his entire spiritual eyes being opened than just his physical eyes. Spiritual conversion involves going from being separated from God to having a relationship with God through Jesus Christ. While not all conversions are nearly as dramatic, Saul's conversion is a beautiful example of how God wants to change people who follow Him.

KEY VERSE: *And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he rose and was baptized. (Acts 9:18)*

KEY THOUGHT:

In Lesson 4.3 we learned that Christ gives us new eyes to see. Paul had an encounter with Christ on the road to Damascus that would change his entire life.

KEY WORD:

Conversion: a complete change of belief and person

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What is the one key thought that you learned tonight?
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- What happens to someone when they are converted?
- What was Saul's life like before he was converted?
- Why do you think Christians were afraid of Saul after he claimed to be converted?
- Why do you think God gave Saul a new name — Paul?
- Saul's conversion was especially dramatic, but how is every conversion similar to his?
- When Paul opened his eyes and received back his sight, how do you think the world looked different to him?
- What does it tell us about God that He saved Saul even when he was so violent in persecuting the church?
- What should you do with the lesson you learned tonight? What should we do?