

Converting the Least Likely People In The Community

Acts 9:1-6 (NKJV)

"Then Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest² and asked letters from him to the synagogues of Damascus, so that if he found any who were of the Way, whether men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem.³ As he journeyed he came near Damascus, and suddenly a light shone around him from heaven.⁴ Then he fell to the ground, and heard a voice saying to him, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?'⁵ And he said, 'Who are You, Lord' Then the Lord said, 'I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. It is hard for you to kick against the goads.'⁶ So he, trembling and astonished, said, 'Lord, what do You want me to do?' Then the Lord said to him, 'Arise and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do.'"

I.

God's plan is for everyone in the community is to be saved, even the least likely people (Acts 9:1-2).

Just one encounter with Jesus, and even the least likely person in the community can have their lives placed on a new path (Acts 9:3-5).

When we give our lives to Jesus, a change takes place on the inside of us.

2 Corinthians 5:17 says, *"¹⁷When someone becomes a Christian, he becomes a brand new person inside. He is not the same anymore. A new life has begun!"*

II.

Once we have been converted, every Believer must ask the Lord what He wants us to do.

Acts 9:6 (NKJV) says, *"So he, trembling and astonished, said, 'Lord, **what do You want me to do?**'"*

When people have been converted in the community, they need to be led to the house for further instruction.

Acts 9:6b (NIV) says, Then the Lord *said* to him, *"Arise and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do."*

In the house of the Lord, we also build relationships that help encourage our walk with Jesus.

III.

It's going to take a holy boldness to overcome fear to minister and convert the least likely people in the community.

Acts 9:13 (MSG) says, “Ananias protested, ‘Master, you can’t be serious. Everybody’s talking about this man and the terrible things he’s been doing, his reign of terror against your people in Jerusalem!’”

Others will be astonished when the least likely people in the community are converted.

Acts 9:20-21 (NIV) says, “At once he began to preach in the synagogues that Jesus is the Son of God.
²¹ All those who heard him were astonished and asked, ‘Isn’t he the man who raised havoc in Jerusalem among those who call on this name? And hasn’t he come here to take them as prisoners to the chief priests?’”

The same God who called Paul on the road to Damascus is calling you.