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# Application Guide: Acts 9

## 1. Warm-up (5-10 min)

**Choose one:**

- a. Think of a time when you had to admit you were wrong about something important. Was it a hard thing to do? Why?

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- b. After admitting you are wrong about something important, how hard is it to change your actions that were based on your former thinking?

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## 2. Engaging the Chapter (15-20 min)

**Background:** Saul was passionate about standing up for his beliefs in God and the Law of Moses. He was faithful to the religious leaders and their teachings. He was as loyal as loyal could be—the kind of guy you would dream of having on your team. He took being serious about your religion to a whole new level. Then Saul “saw the light.”

**Picture it:** Imagine you are on your way home from school and are suddenly knocked down and blinded by a bright light. A loud voice starts speaking to you. Would you be terrified or excited to encounter something supernatural?

Imagine you are the leader of an extremely successful cause against the teachings of a dead philosopher. Imagine you have a large following that adores you for standing up for what’s perceived to be right and true. Then imagine that the very person your cause stands against appears to you, very much alive, and starts talking to you. Would you be freaked out? How would it feel to realize that you were dead wrong about everything you believe in?

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How do you think Saul developed such a strong passion for such a bad thing?

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Why do you think Saul was so terribly mistaken about what God wanted him to do?

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Obviously Saul had seen and/or heard of the miracles that Jesus and the Apostles had performed. Do you think Saul thought he had greater powers than the Apostles and could outdo them?

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Do you think Saul thought the Apostles were performing miracles with the power of the Devil?

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Why do you think God “chose” Saul to spread the Gospel to the Gentiles when he was such a bad person? Do you think that means God forced Saul to change his ways against his will? Do you think that all people who do bad things have a bad heart?

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**3. Applying the Chapter to Your Life (5-10 min)**

**Choose one:**

- a. Do you think you should simply take your pastor’s/parent’s word that the Bible is true, or should you explore it and try it for yourself? Why.
- b. Think of ways you can verify that the things you’ve been taught to believe in. List 3 in your journal or discuss them with friends.
- c. Do you think it’s okay to sometimes have doubts about the Bible and its teachings? Discuss this question with an adult you trust.

**4. Prayer Time (3-5 min)**

- a. Spend a few minutes thinking about all the times you have seen miracles. Thank Jesus for those miracles and ask Him to show Himself to you in more ways.
- b. Spend some time talking to Jesus about what it really means to be a Christian.