

WEEKLY GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Week of Sunday June 28, 2026

TABLE OF CONTENTS

02

Introduction

03

Discussion Questions

04

Application Questions

05

Questions for Families | Bible Reading Plan

06

Commentary

INTRODUCTION

In **Acts 9:1–19**, Jesus is not inviting people into a religious performance or a self-improvement project. He is inviting people into a life-changing relationship with Him and a deep connection with His people. Many of us know the tension of wanting to follow Jesus while also carrying hurt, pride, fear, or distance from others. This passage challenges us to consider not only how we respond to Jesus, but also how we treat His church. As we discuss today, ask God to reveal any area where He may be inviting you toward repentance, reconciliation, or deeper obedience.

Main Passage:

Acts 9:1–19

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

He Takes It Personally

READ ALOUD

Acts 9:1–19

Opening Question: What is something you were convinced about at one point in life but later realized you were wrong about?

- What stands out to you most in this passage?
- What do you notice about the way Jesus responds to Saul?
- Why do you think Jesus asked, “Why are you persecuting me?” instead of “Why are you persecuting my followers?”
- How might this passage change the way we think about our relationship with other believers?

APPLY

- Is there an area of your life where Jesus may be inviting you to change your mind and follow Him more fully?
- Where is it easiest for you to become critical, disconnected, or indifferent toward the church?
- What would it look like to actively strengthen and encourage the body of Christ this week?

RESPOND

- What is one step of obedience God may be calling you to take because of today's discussion?
- Is there someone you need to encourage, forgive, reconcile with, or pray for this week?

DIGGING DEEPER *(optional)*

Acts 9:20–31

- What changes do you see in Saul immediately after his encounter with Jesus?
- How do other believers respond to Saul's transformation?
- What does this section teach us about the relationship between personal faith and the local church?

PRAY

Invite everyone to spend a moment reflecting on what God may be revealing through this passage. Pray for hearts that are open to repentance where needed and courage to obey what Jesus is asking. Ask God to help us love His church, pursue unity, and strengthen one another in faith. Thank Jesus for His grace, mercy, and transforming power that changes lives and welcomes people into His family.

QUESTIONS FOR FAMILIES

Acts 9:1–19

- What happened to Saul on the road to Damascus?
- What does this story teach us about Jesus?
- Why do you think Jesus cares about how we treat other people?
- How can our family encourage and help other believers this week?

For younger children: Jesus knows your name, loves you, and wants you to follow Him every day.

For older kids or students: Is there someone at church, school, or home that Jesus may be asking you to encourage, forgive, or help this week?

BIBLE READING PLAN (OPTIONAL)

Scripture to read as you pray this week:

- **Day 1:** Acts 10:1–8
- **Day 2:** Acts 10:9–23
- **Day 3:** Acts 10:24–33
- **Day 4:** Acts 10:34–43
- **Day 5:** Acts 10:44–48

What's Going On?

Acts 9 marks one of the most significant turning points in the book of Acts. Saul, a fierce opponent of Jesus and the church, encounters the risen Christ on the road to Damascus. Instead of receiving judgment, he receives mercy and a new calling.

This moment demonstrates that Jesus is alive, actively building His church, and able to transform even the most unlikely person. The passage also highlights the deep connection between Jesus and His people, showing that how we treat the church matters to Him.

A Bit of Background

Damascus was about 135 miles from Jerusalem and had a significant Jewish population. Saul was traveling there with authority to arrest followers of Jesus.

His dramatic conversion not only changed his life but also became a major part of God's plan to bring the gospel to Gentiles throughout the world. Through Saul—later known as Paul—the message of Jesus spread far beyond Jerusalem and eventually reached people like us.