

# Sermon Discussion (9/14/2025)

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The church is growing. The growth is occurring because of the courageous testimonies presented by the believers in the early church.

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## Title: Changed

## The Main Question: Why testify?

### Points to Consider

1. Because who we trust has changed.
2. Because our focus has changed.
3. Because our motivation has changed.

## Scripture References:

### **Acts 9:20–26 NIV**

<sup>20</sup> At once he began to preach in the synagogues that Jesus is the Son of God. <sup>21</sup> 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?” <sup>22</sup> Yet Saul grew more and more powerful and baffled the Jews living in Damascus by proving that Jesus is the Messiah. <sup>23</sup> After many days had gone by, there was a conspiracy among the Jews to kill him, <sup>24</sup> but Saul learned of their plan. Day and night they kept close watch on the city gates in order to kill him. <sup>25</sup> But his followers took him by night and lowered him in a basket through an opening in the wall. <sup>26</sup> When he came to Jerusalem, he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him, not believing that he really was a disciple.

## Application Questions

- What changed when you came to Christ?

## Love God / Invitation / Relationship

We experience the love of God when we invite Him into our lives.

- Read [Acts 9:20-26](#).
- When God comes into our lives He changes things.
- What changed when God's love became a reality in your life?

## Find Freedom / Learning / Clarity

Freedom is found when we learn a new way to think.

- Everyone in this passage is having to learn to think differently.
- We can see the bondage taking root in those who use to celebrate Saul.
- What kind of bondage are they in?
- What is the result in the world?

## See God / Prayer / Affirmation

It is much easier for us to "see" God when we are communicating with God. Prayer is how we communicate with God.

- What role has prayer played in Saul's conversion?
- Has anyone been a factor who hasn't been in prayer?
- What does this tell you about the importance of prayer?

## Experience Healing / Serve Others / Opportunities

The brokenness in our hearts begins to heal as we serve other people.

- How is Saul finding healing in his life?

## Discover Joy / Gratitude / Community

The more grateful we are the more joy we feel.

- It is difficult to measure Saul's gratitude in this passage but what would you imagine his gratitude is like?
- How grateful is he and what is he grateful for?
- What is the result of his gratitude?