



SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Week of May 31, 2026

Acts 22:1-16

[1] “Brothers and fathers, hear the defense that I now make before you.” [2] And when they heard that he was addressing them in the Hebrew language, they became even more quiet. And he said: [3] “I am a Jew, born in Tarsus in Cilicia, but brought up in this city, educated at the feet of Gamaliel according to the strict manner of the law of our fathers, being zealous for God as all of you are this day. [4] I persecuted this Way to the death, binding and delivering to prison both men and women, [5] as the high priest and the whole council of elders can bear me witness. From them I received letters to the brothers, and I journeyed toward Damascus to take those also who were there and bring them in bonds to Jerusalem to be punished. [6] “As I was on my way and drew near to Damascus, about noon a great light from heaven suddenly shone around me. [7] And I fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to me, ‘Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?’ [8] And I answered, ‘Who are you, Lord?’ And he said to me, ‘I am Jesus of Nazareth, whom you are persecuting.’ [9] Now those who were with me saw the light but did not understand the voice of the one who was speaking to me. [10] And I said, ‘What shall I do, Lord?’ And the Lord said to me, ‘Rise, and go into Damascus, and there you will be told all that is appointed for you to do.’ [11] And since I could not see because of the brightness of that light, I was led by the hand by those who were with me, and came into Damascus. [12] “And one Ananias, a devout man according to the law, well spoken of by all the Jews who lived there, [13] came to me, and standing by me said to me, ‘Brother Saul, receive your sight.’ And at that very hour I received my sight and saw him. [14] And he said, ‘The God of our fathers appointed you to know his will, to see the Righteous One and to hear a voice from his mouth; [15] for you will be a witness for him to everyone of what you have seen and heard. [16] And now why do you wait? Rise and be baptized and wash away your sins, calling on his name’

1. Is being a quiet, obedient, deferential person not attracting too much attention, the mark of a humble person? Why or why not? What does it mean to be truly humble? Are you a truly humble person? How do you know?
2. Paul’s love for his Jewish brethren was so great that in spite of their violent hatred of him, he would not stop trying to reach them with the gospel. What do you think is at the heart of this kind of love? Who else in the Bible showed this kind of sacrificial love and what was at the heart of His love? Why does this kind of love require humility and how does this added thought inform your definition of true humility?
3. Saul of Tarsus’ hatred for Christians was so well known by the Jewish leaders that they chose him to lead the persecution of Christians in Damascus. What do you think causes such hatred? Do you think you are capable of such hatred? If not, what separates you from a man like Saul?
4. How does your answer to the previous question give insight into your understanding of yourself and the gospel? If you are truly as bad a person as Saul, how should Jesus’ sacrificial death for your sins impact the way you live and is Paul’s way of life and the way he loved others really that unusual?
5. Scripture teaches us that unbelievers are spiritually blind (2 Cor 4:4) and dead in their sins (Eph 2:1). Before becoming Christians we were separated from Christ, alienated, strangers, having no hope and without God in the world (Eph 2:12). We were all once utterly and hopelessly lost. The only way Paul or any person can become a Christian is if God unilaterally quickens our blind and dead hearts back to life. Paul knew this. He knew that we are not smart enough, good enough or lucky enough to save ourselves. Explain why it is so important for every Christian to know this and how this should naturally lead us towards humility.
6. When Paul is given new life by Jesus Christ, his sight returns and he is immediately commissioned to know, see and hear the will of Jesus Christ the Righteous One, in order to be a witness for him. We see in the book of Acts how Paul obviously obeyed this commission and how the direction and pattern of his life was forever changed. How has the direction and pattern of your life forever changed since you became a Christian?