

Power of the Gospel
Scripture: Acts 9:1-9, 19-22

Intro: Story of something powerful changing someone. Having Luke. Sleep, eating, what makes me happy or cry. We want this change because we know it is better.

The Gospel should impact every area of your life.

Introduce Paul/Saul name. Stoning of Stephen, educated, Hebrew of Hebrews, zealous.

Emphasize how the Gospel has power (lightning)

The Gospel has the power to...

1. Transform the worst of sinners. (1-9) (1 Timothy 1:15)
 - 1 Timothy 1:15. Illustration of why if God could save Paul, he could save anyone. (Friend. If that guy can do it, we can ALL do it)
 - This transformation is ongoing. Paul's transformation started with his conversion, but continued for his whole life.
 - Paul and Barnabas having a "sharp disagreement", Peter (Denying Jesus, 6 years to realize God doesn't show favoritism, called a hypocrite by Paul in Galatians 2), David (Adultery and murder), Thief on the cross
 - "Our Lord fights for us even when we fail to fight for ourselves and for one another" Paul Tripp

2. Change your world view. (19-22)
 - Everything that Paul cared about and was known for was turned upside-down.
 - Philippians 3:8 "I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ"
 - Money, view of self, effects of sin, marriage, forgiveness.

There are 2 camps we fall in. Paul before his conversion or Paul after.

The Gospel is powerful. God's grace is not cheap or weak. It came at a heavy cost. God is not dumb. Our actions of our past present, or future do not change the power of the Gospel. When we doubt that God can forgive us, or others, we weaken what Jesus did on the cross and in the grave. This Good News should change EVERYTHING.

If you have never had this Good News in your life, talk to someone about salvation or baptism. If you have, but recognize that you forget that power and transformation, remember the power of the Gospel and believe He is changing you.