

Crazy Ask Week 3 – Right About Now Spiritual Formation Guide

We hope you'll use this guide to take the teaching from Sunday's service and reflect on it with a few friends or with a group. If you have questions or want to talk more about how to take a next spiritual step, contact us at info@wschurch.org.

## Scripture:

Meanwhile, Saul was uttering threats with every breath and was eager to kill the Lord's followers.

So he went to the high priest. <sup>2</sup>He requested letters addressed to the synagogues in Damascus, asking for their cooperation in the arrest of any followers of the Way he found there. He wanted to bring them—both men and women—back to Jerusalem in chains.

<sup>3</sup> As he was approaching Damascus on this mission, a light from heaven suddenly shone down around him. <sup>4</sup>He fell to the ground and heard a voice saving to him, "Saul! Saul! Why are you persecuting me?"

<sup>5</sup> "Who are you, lord?" Saul asked.

And the voice replied, "I am Jesus, the one you are persecuting! <sup>6</sup> Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do."

<sup>7</sup> The men with Saul stood speechless, for they heard the sound of someone's voice but saw no one! <sup>8</sup> Saul picked himself up off the ground, but when he opened his eyes he was blind. So his companions led him by the hand to Damascus.

Acts 9:1-8

This is a trustworthy saying, and everyone should accept it: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners — and I am the worst of them all. But God had mercy on me so that Christ Jesus could use me as a prime example of his great patience with even the worst sinners. Then others will realize that they, too, can believe in him and receive eternal life.

1 Timothy 1:15

## **Reflection Questions:**

- What's the craziest change to your life you've ever experienced?
- What stood out to you from Sunday's service? How did you sense God's Spirit speaking to you through the songs, the message, and being together with others as part of the church?
- Do you think people can change? How do you initially react to that question?

- Read part of Paul's story in Acts 9:1-8. If you're with others, have someone read it out loud. (Consider having several people read it in several translations.) What do you notice?
- Eddie share about several things that happen when a person is changed by God (and that we see in Paul's conversion story):
  - An awkward confrontation a kind of disruption or collision between the person and God
  - Full surrender being humble and vulnerable (baptism is a picture of this posture)
  - Sudden adoption when we give up our isolation and agree to be part of God's family

Which of those stand out to you in your own experience or seeing someone else's experience?

- Is there one of those that has been missing in your experience?
- Eddie also shared that **"God's timeline for repentance is now."** A verse that we read at the beginning of worship says it this way: "But Christ, as the Son, is in charge of God's entire house. And we are God's house, if we keep our courage and remain confident in our hope in Christ.

<sup>7</sup>That is why the Holy Spirit says,

'Today when you hear his voice,

<sup>8</sup> don't harden your hearts.'"

Hebrews 3:6-8

What do you sense God calling you to do in response to this message?

- Eddie also briefly explored the role that Ananias played in Paul's story. He was asked by God to go to someone he did not expect and point him toward Jesus. What stands out to you about his involvement in Paul's transformation?
- The worship team sang a song, "Make Room" by Community Music.
   Listen to it this week and let the words guide your prayer and worship. Find a link to listed at <a href="https://www.wschurch.org/songs">www.wschurch.org/songs</a>.

Looking for some ways to grow and be stretched spiritually? Check out our highlighted resources at <a href="https://www.wschurch.org/resources">www.wschurch.org/resources</a>. These resources can be purchased using the links or are available for a small donation at the Next Steps area on Sunday mornings.