

SUNDAY FAITH DEVELOPMENT INTRODUCTORY REVIEW

February 18, 2018

Faithful Disciples

Acts 9:36-43

LESSON OUTLINE

1. Acts 9:36-38 – A FAITHFUL FRIEND
2. Acts 9:39-43 – A FAITHFUL GOD

Last week our lesson was A Disciplined Faith. Disciplined is a program to develop into something. The lesson writer in the Bible Expositor and Illuminator said, *“The truth of our lesson should cause us to realize our vulnerability and propensity to speak damaging words...All of us,...will use our tongues in destructive ways unless we submit to the Lord. We...need to admit times in the past when we hurt someone by words spoken....Confession and restoration are in order-first with God and then with the injured person...”* Being disciplined takes work. The only way to be successful in ministry is to work.

Today we move back to the book of Acts. The Holman Study Bible says, *“The book of Acts provides a glimpse into the first three decades of the early church...as it spread and multiplied after the ascension of Jesus Christ....it focuses on the role played by apostles such as Peter...and Paul...”*

Our lesson is found in Chapter 9. This Chapter opens with Saul (later Paul) breathing threats against the disciples. His intent was to destroy any followers of the Way. As he set out to do his intended work he was interrupted. Near Damascus he saw a light from heaven. Falling to the ground he heard a voice calling his name, asking him why was he doing the things he was doing.

The Lord identified Himself to Saul. This made Saul tremble. He was told to get up and go into the city. Because of the state of blindness placed on him, he had to be led into Damascus. He could not see, nor did he eat for three days. Later he was baptized by Ananias, who was a disciple. His sight returned. He ate and regained his strength, a new and different man.

Our lesson today is Faithful Disciples. Dictionary.com defines Faithfulness as, *“confidence or trust...belief that is not based on proof.”* Thus far we have seen the faith of Saul through conversion and the faithfulness of Ananias.

For us to be Faithful Disciples there are requirements. Our lesson will show how we must seek to faithful to the Lord. May the Holy Spirit speak through our teacher as we study.