

sermon notes

Pastor Tony Caffey, VBVF | No Other Name

June 1, 2025 | "The Hunter Becomes the Hunted" | **Acts 9:19b–31**

- 1) Jesus's followers experience _____
(9:19b–22)
- 2) Jesus's followers suffer _____
(9:23–25)
- 3) Jesus's followers are never _____
(9:26–30)
- 4) Jesus's followers are encouraged and built up in the _____
(9:31)

Questions for further application of God's Word:

GO DEEPER

Read Acts 9:19b–31. How would you describe Saul's transformation from Acts 9:1 to Acts 9:31? How did the people around Saul change in their relationship to him? How were Jesus's words to Ananias in Acts 9:15–16 immediately fulfilled in Saul's life?

Did Saul wait before preaching the gospel to unbelievers? Should new believers wait to mature before they evangelize? In what ways can new converts like Saul be more effective in reaching others for Christ than seasoned saints? How do seasoned saints become more effective in reaching others for Christ?

Explain how Ananias and Barnabas played significant roles in Saul's life. What are some ways that regular Christians can imitate the actions of Ananias and Barnabas? What are some positive attributes of Barnabas, already highlighted in Acts, which are worthy of our imitation?

GET PERSONAL

Over a three-year period, Saul grew in strength and influence in the city of Damascus. In what ways have you grown in strength and influence since your conversion? How do you hope to grow and mature in the coming years?

List some ways God has used you to edify the body of Christ. What gifts has God given you to bless the church? In what ways would you like to grow in your ministry to the church?

PUT IT INTO PRACTICE

Why is it important for Christians to share their faith with others (i.e., proselytize)? Does sharing our faith accelerate spiritual maturity? Does a lack of gospel witness hinder spiritual growth? Is there anything keeping you from regularly sharing your faith with others? If so, list those things and pray through them with someone else.

ADVANCED QUESTION

Does the gospel of Jesus Christ spread more when the church is under persecution or when there is peace? Consider the book of Acts with your response. How does Acts 9:31 inform your conclusion? Reflect on the following statement by John Calvin: "For as we are accustomed in peacetime to abandon ourselves to a riot of luxury, the churches are for the most part more blessed in the midst of the tumults of war than if they are enjoying the quietest and most pleasant time they could desire." Agree or disagree?