



The Chapel
February 16, 2025
Dave Gustavsen

Week 7: Don't Underestimate God
Scripture: Acts 9:1-22

1. OPEN IN PRAYER (5 MINUTES)

- Have a group member pray, invite the Holy Spirit to lead, and fill your time together.

2. GETTING STARTED: (10 MINUTES)

- Question: Briefly share how someone close to you (or your own testimony) radically changed from hostility to Christ and Christians to abounding in love for Christ, believers, and the lost.

3. READ ACTS 9:1-22 TOGETHER (5 MINUTES)

- Ask one or two group members to read the passage aloud.

4. DISCUSS (30 MINUTES)

Understanding the Passage:

- Acts 9:1-3 reveals Saul's status, zeal, and hatred of Christ's followers in the early church. Even religious leaders joined in trying to stop the spread of the Gospel. Where do you see opposition to Christ today that seems impossible to overcome?
- Acts 9:4-7 describes Saul's encounter with Christ, his response, and the impact on those around him. How have you seen God use unexpected circumstances or divine encounters to change the course of someone's life?
- Acts 9:8-21 shows how God used a hesitant and fear-filled Ananias to bless and restore Saul. What obstacles did the LORD remove in Ananias's heart/mind? What steps of obedience did Ananias have to take? How do the words "Brother Saul," "Saul was baptized," and "He immediately began preaching about Jesus" reveal the depth of Saul's transformation?

Applying the Message:

- **Don't Underestimate God's Hidden Work in Others.** How can you build trust in God's ability to work in the lives of the "impossible" people around you?
- **Don't Underestimate God's Strategic Role for You.** Who in your life is resistant to Christ, yet God may be calling you to show them his grace? How does it change your perspective to realize that God invites you to be part of His work in transforming lives? Does this opportunity excite you or challenge you, and why?

- **Don't Underestimate God's Amazing Ability to Turn His Mockers into His Messengers.**

How can you pray for and share God's invitation to life with those who are critical of Christ and the Christian faith? What practical steps can you take to extend fellowship and encouragement to someone who is new in their faith, helping them grow spiritually and share their testimony with others?

5. LIVE IT OUT: (10 MINUTES)

- Identify one person or situation in your life that seems "impossible" — whether it's someone who seems far from God, a strained relationship, or a challenge you've given up hope on.
 - **Commit to Pray daily:** Pray specifically for that person or situation, asking God to work in ways only He can.
 - **Act in Faith:** Be open to how God may want to use you — to encourage, share your faith, or show love — as part of His plan to transform the situation.
 - **Watch and wait Expectantly:** Trust that God is at work, even if you can't see it yet. Be ready to celebrate any small steps of change or open doors He creates.

6. CLOSING PRAYER (5 MINUTES)

- Thank God that no one and nothing is beyond His power to transform. Ask God for faith to trust His work and courage to be part of His plans.
- Pray for the specific people / situations, as shared above (refer to Live it Out).