



Paul's Encounter -- Week 4

Announcements

101 Starting Point -- Sunday, October 6th, at 5:00 pm at all campuses. Starting Point is the first step toward getting involved at Church of the King by learning about the vision and mission of the church. Register at www.churchoftheking.com/register

Women's Night – Dianne Wilson, October 1st at 7:00 pm. We will have small groups launching following Women's Night. These groups will go through a 4-weeks series based on a message series by Dianne Wilson.

Are you looking for a place for your small group to serve? Bring your small group members to 101 Starting Point to serve as Connectors. Our Connectors serve as a way to help make 101 Starting Point a great experience for all who attend. Email Pathway@Churchoftheking.com to find out more information on how to get involved.

Warm-up

Who is the most famous person you've ever met? How did you react when you met them?

Today we are going to learn about the transition in the Apostle Paul's life when he encountered Jesus on the road to Damascus. During our discussion we are going to discover what it means to encounter Jesus Christ and enter into a relationship with him.

Word and Application

The Apostle Paul, before his encounter with Jesus, was a religious ruler named Saul who was consumed with killing and imprisoning Christians as a way to end their movement.

Read Acts 9:1-6. What do you think were some of the thoughts going through Paul's mind when he was blinded by a light and encountered Jesus, whose followers he was persecuting?

Paul's encounter with Jesus did more than change his name from Saul to Paul. It changed his purpose in life and his eternity.

Read 2 Timothy 4:7-8 to see Paul's perspective as his life was nearing an end.

If you are a Christ-follower, how has your encounter with Jesus Christ changed your life?

For the rest of our discussion today we are going to walk through the Gospel of Jesus Christ. For believers this will be a confidence builder and a reminder of what Jesus did for us. For people who have not yet stepped into a relationship with Jesus, today's discussion will clarify what it means to encounter him.

Read John 3:16. The most important principle to keep at the forefront of our minds is that God loves us and wants a relationship with us.

Why do you think some people tend to lose focus of this principle and end up viewing God as a supernatural rule enforcer?

Read Isaiah 59:2 and Romans 3:23. God's passion is a relationship with us, his creation. However, we must be aware of the fact that our sin separates us from God.

Read Romans 6:23 and Isaiah 64:6. These scriptures help us to understand that we deserve death because of our sin and that our efforts to be right with God are worthless.

The good news is God gave us the answer for redeeming the broken relationship we have with him as a result of sin.

Read 2 Corinthians 5:21 and Romans 5:8. How does it make you feel knowing Jesus gave his life for you so that you can have eternal life? How does this impact the way you live your life?

Just like the Apostle Paul's encounter with Jesus changed his life, we must encounter Jesus if we want our lives to be changed through the forgiveness of our sins.

If you want to encounter Jesus and ask him to forgive you of your sins we can pray together today as a group.

"God, I come to you as a sinner, in need of a savior. I know I am turning from my past and turning to you. I ask you to forgive me of my sins and give me a new life. I commit my life to you from this day forward. In Jesus name, amen."

Prayer

Take time to ask for specific prayer requests from those in your small group and pray with an expectation that God is hearing and will answer your prayers.