

# *Living Water Fellowship*

*6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024*

## *COME TO JESUS*

PRE-SERVICE MEDITATION      BREAKTHROUGH (RED ROCKS WORSHIP)

### **WELCOME & PRAYER:**

## *GROW IN HIS GRACE*

**SONG:**      VIDEO – Goodness of God (*Maranatha Music*)

**BIBLE READING:**      Acts 9:1-19

<sup>1</sup> Meanwhile, Saul was uttering murderous threats with every breath & 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 & 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 & heard a voice saying to him, "Saul! Saul! Why are you persecuting me?" <sup>5</sup> "Who are you, lord?" Saul asked. The voice replied, "I am Jesus, the one you are persecuting!" <sup>6</sup> Now get up & go into the city, & 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. <sup>9</sup> He remained there blind for three days & did not eat or drink.

<sup>10</sup> Now there was a believer in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord spoke to him in a vision, calling, "Ananias!" "Yes, Lord!" he replied. <sup>11</sup> The Lord said, "Go over to Straight Street, to the house of Judas. When you get there, ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul. He is praying to me right now. <sup>12</sup> I have shown him a vision of a man named Ananias coming in & laying hands on him so he can see again."

<sup>13</sup> "But Lord," exclaimed Ananias, "I've heard many people talk about the terrible things this man has done to the believers in Jerusalem!" <sup>14</sup> He is authorized by the leading priests to arrest everyone who calls upon your name." <sup>15</sup> But the Lord said, "Go, for Saul is my chosen instrument to take my message to the Gentiles & to kings, as well as to the people of Israel. <sup>16</sup> And I will show him how much he must suffer for my name's sake."

<sup>17</sup> So Ananias went & found Saul. He laid his hands on him & said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road, has sent me so that you might regain your sight & be filled with the Holy Spirit." <sup>18</sup> Instantly something like scales fell from Saul's eyes, & he regained his sight. Then he got up & was baptized. <sup>19</sup> Afterward he ate some food & regained his strength.

**SONG:** VIDEO – What Love My God (*CityAlight*)

**BIBLE READING:** Acts 22:12-16

<sup>12</sup> A man named Ananias lived there. He was a godly man, deeply devoted to the law, & well regarded by all the Jews of Damascus. <sup>13</sup> He came & stood beside me & said, 'Brother Saul, regain your sight.' At that very moment I could see him!

<sup>14</sup> "Then he told me, 'The God of our ancestors has chosen you to know his will & to see the Righteous One & hear him speak. <sup>15</sup> For you are to be his witness, telling everyone what you have seen & heard. <sup>16</sup> What are you waiting for? Get up & be baptized. Have your sins washed away by calling on the name of the Lord.'

### CHILDREN'S TIME

### FAITH CHAT:

1. What's the biggest "faith risk" you've ever taken? What happened?
2. If Ananias doesn't obey what God commands, What happens?  
Put yourself in Ananias shoes...

**THE MESSAGE:** *LIVING COURAGEOUSLY: ANANIAS*

**OFFERING SONG:** VIDEO – Beautiful Things (*Gungor*)

### PRAYERS:

### THE COMMUNION:

*Words of Institution & The Lord's Prayer:*

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, & the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

*Worship during Communion:*

VIDEO – *My Father's World* (*Jadon Lavik*)

*GO IN HIS POWER*

### THE BLESSING:

**(Name), † child of God,**

**Christ has made you his to live courageously in his Name!**

**-- Amen.**

### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**SONG:** VIDEO – The Lord is By My Side (*CityAlight*)

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*SHOW HIS LOVE*

### Group Bible Study/Discussion:

1. Read Acts 9:1-19 & 22:12-16. What questions come to you as you read the text? What do you find most challenging/encouraging?
2. Why do you think Saul is so fervent in his persecution of the church? Compare Saul's teacher Gamaliel's advice in Acts 5:34-39 with Saul's actions. What insight does this provide into Saul's pre-Christian character?
3. Read John 6:44 & John 15:16. How do these verses shed light on the story of Saul? How is this an encouragement to us as we live on the Way & offer the hope we have in Christ to others?
4. How does the laying of hands & the receiving of the Spirit connect Saul's conversion & call to the Day of Pentecost?
5. What is one of the biggest challenges you have had to face because of your faith in Jesus? How are the challenges to Christians seemingly growing larger in today's world? How are you responding faithfully to those challenges?
6. As Luke writes his gospel & accompanying book of Acts, notice that he "normalizes" evangelism, the sharing of faith one person to another. It is what followers of Jesus just **DO** as a matter of course. How is that displayed here through both Ananias **and** Saul?
7. What motivated Ananias to obey? How did Ananias address Saul? What does that indicate?
8. , God says Saul is to be His chosen instrument for taking the gospel to the Gentiles & their leaders as well as to the Jews. Why is this significant? What would have made Saul a good candidate for this task?
9. Why is suffering such an integral part of Saul's life & ministry (vs 16)? As demonstrated in the book of Acts, & other places in the New Testament letters, why does preaching the gospel go hand-in-hand with suffering?
10. Like Ananias's display of obedience, what areas in your life require radical obedience to God's calling, even if it seems uncomfortable or risky? Saul's conversion completely transformed his identity & purpose. In what areas of your life do you sense a need for this kind of renewal? Paul was redeemed, restored & reformed without his asking for it. Where might God do that to you even though you're not specifically seeking it?
11. What does this text call you to do?

### Remember:

One courageous act obedient to God's word or in response to God's call can lead to a great harvest for the Kingdom.