



Gains

Part 2 – Step by Step

Discussion Guide

This week, we will study the truth of God's plan for you and your life. As we heard in the message, our walk with Jesus is a series of next steps. God desires to have a relationship with us and walk with us. Let's connect with God's truth and discover our next steps.

Jump Start

Leader: This section is designed to get discussions started, examine God's truth, and apply it to our week.

1. What is something that you were uncertain of when you started, and it turned out better than you could have imagined? (May be raising children, marriage, a recipe, a DIY project, etc.) Share it with your group.
2. *Connect to God.* Read [Jeremiah 29:11-13](#), [Ephesians 2:10](#), and [Ephesians 1:4-5](#). What is God's desire for His children? What are the key thoughts and phrases communicated here?
3. Read [Acts 9:15-16](#), [Philippians 3:4-6](#), [Ephesians 2:8-9](#), and [Philippians 1:29](#). God says that Saul is to be His chosen instrument for taking the Gospel to the Gentiles. Saul changed his name to Paul ([Acts 13:9](#)) and he is the author of much of the New Testament. What would have made Saul a good candidate for this task? What qualifies you?
4. *Connect to Others.* Read [Acts 9:17](#), [Acts 22:13](#) When Ananias met Saul, what did he call him? What do you think was going through Ananias' mind? What does this indicate? How did Ananias help Saul?
5. *Trust the Process.* Read [Acts 9:20-31](#) and [Luke 6:37-38](#). Why do you think it is so important that believers not judge one another? As we take each step, it's important for us to have healthy community around us. What was the reaction of the Jewish leaders in response to Saul's conversion? How would you have responded? How likely are you to judge others?
6. Final Thought: *Take the Next Step.* What next step are you going to take?

Deeper

Leader: This section is designed for further use in your Life Group or for personal study. These can also be used as discussion points and ways to stay connected with your group throughout the week.

This week, we looked briefly at Ananias of Damascus and how God used him to help Saul on his spiritual journey of discovering the Living God. God gave Ananias step-by-step directions. Let's look deeper into each step. Discover how you will then take your next steps.

7. **Read [Acts 9:1-2](#)**. What were Christians know as at this time? What do you think is the origin of this name?
8. Describe the character of Ananias of Damascus. **Read [Acts 9:10-18](#), [Acts 22:12-16](#), and [1 Corinthians 1:26-28](#)**. List adjectives you see from Scripture and things you infer from his responses, actions, and words to Saul.
9. **Memorize. [Proverbs 3:5-6 \(NIV\)](#)**: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."