

### What are you pursuing in life?

- Do you have a passionate pursuit in your vocation?
- Do you have a passionate pursuit in your marriage, relationships or family?
- Do you have a passionate pursuit in your health, sport or hobby?
- Do you have a passionate pursuit in your financial life?
- Do you have a passionate pursuit in your spiritual life?

#### I. **Our Life's Pursuit**

A. Saul's pursuit was \_\_\_\_\_

<sup>1</sup>Now Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest, <sup>2</sup> and asked for letters from him to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way, both men and women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem.

B. A pursuit \_\_\_\_\_\_.

<sup>3</sup>As he was traveling, it happened that he was approaching Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him; <sup>4</sup> and he fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?" <sup>5</sup> And he said, "Who are You, Lord?" And He said, "I am Jesus whom you are persecuting, <sup>6</sup> but get up and enter the city, and it will be told you what you must do."

C. A pursuit \_\_\_\_\_

<sup>7</sup> The men who traveled with him stood speechless, hearing the voice but seeing no one. <sup>8</sup> Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; and leading him by the hand, they brought him into Damascus. <sup>9</sup> And he was three days without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

### II. Life's Greatest Pursuit:

Acts 9:10-19 (NASB)

<sup>10</sup> Now there was a disciple at Damascus named Ananias; and the Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." And he said, "Here I am, Lord." <sup>11</sup> And the Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and inquire at the house of Judas for a man from Tarsus named Saul, for he is praying, <sup>12</sup> and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him, so that he might regain his sight."<sup>13</sup> But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much harm he did to Your saints at Jerusalem; <sup>14</sup> and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on Your name." <sup>15</sup> But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen instrument of Mine, to bear My name before the Gentiles and kings and the sons of Israel; <sup>16</sup> for I will show him how much he must suffer for My name's sake." <sup>17</sup> So Ananias departed and entered the house, and after laying his hands on him said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road by which you were coming, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." <sup>18</sup> And immediately there fell from his eyes something like scales, and he regained his sight, and he got up and was baptized; <sup>19</sup> and he took food and was strengthened.

"The conversion and apostleship of St. Paul alone, duly considered, was of itself a demonstration sufficient to prove Christianity to be a divine revelation." — George Littleton (18th C British Statesman)

Acts 9:1-2 (NASB)

Acts 9:3-6 (NASB)

# Acts 9:7–9 (NASB)



## DOGGY BAG

Something to take home and chew on!

- 1. What are your primary pursuits in life? Career goal? Financial goal? Health/fitness goal? Family/relational goal? Intellectual goal? Spiritual goal?
- 2. When have you experienced Jesus interrupt or deny your pursuit in life? How did you handle that change of direction?
- 3. How have you experienced Jesus pursuing you in life? What has the divine pursuit looked and felt like?
- 4. Is there an area of your life or ministry that you feel Christ is calling you to pursue next? What is it? What is the next faithful step in Christ's direction?

### Take a step in faith this week:

- 1. Let us know you are here today. Fill out a Connection Card every Sunday through either the Christ Church app or the Connection Card tab in the top menu bar of the Online Campus Platform (LIVE.CHRISTCHURCHVA.ORG).
- Come and bring the whole family to our Wednesday Night Dinner (5:30pm) & Discipleship (6:30pm). Join Pastor Todd's Apply Group in Room 160. Email him for info at <u>pastortodd@christchurchva.org</u>.
- **3.** Join a small group or class—not all of them are on Wednesdays! Contact Pam Charbonneau at <u>pcharbonneau@christchurchva.org</u> to learn how.
- 4. Check out our online bulletin each Sunday. Use the Christ Church app, or the Resources tab\* in the top menu bar of the Online Campus Platform, to access.
- 5. Join us for Midday Prayer each weekday at noon on our Online Campus Platform (LIVE.CHRISTCHURCHVA.ORG).

\*Quick link to Connection Resources: CHRISTCHURCHVA.ORG/CONNECT-WITH-US

### ANSWER KEY:

- I. A. <u>GOD</u> B. <u>INTERRUPTED</u> C. <u>DENIED</u>
- II. CHRIST'S PURSUIT

Main point: **SOMETIMES OUR PURSUITS IN LIFE BLIND US FROM LIFE'S GREATEST PURSUIT**.