

Discussion Questions:

1. When did Saul change his name to Paul?
 2. When did Paul spend three years in the desert?
 3. Who started Paul in his career as a foreign missionary?
 4. From whom did Paul seek approval before going to the Gentiles?
 5. Paul received an unfathomable amount of grace from God; how do you think this motivated the way he preached grace?
 6. Name two primary questions facing the early Church.
 7. What event certainly terminated Judaism's immense influence over Christianity?
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1. Saul was his Hebrew name and Paul was his Roman name. People just started using his Roman name more. Luke went to the name change during the story of Sergius Paulus.
 2. Shortly after his conversion.
 3. Barnabas and the church at Antioch.
 4. The Apostles and James.
 6. Which would be primary – Christianity or Judaism? Could people become Christians without following the laws of Moses?
 7. The destruction of the Temple in 70 AD.

Application Questions

1. Paul was responsible for countless deaths of Christians, and yet God forgave him and restored him. What do you need forgiveness for in your life? What about restoration?
2. If you had to overcome your past, like Paul, how would you do it? [change your ways, have people vouch for you, be consistent in your changed behavior, pray]
3. Paul was absolutely sure he was pleasing God by persecuting the Christians, yet this is not what God wanted. How can you have assurance that you are pleasing God with your actions?

Application Questions for Teens

1. Paul was responsible for countless deaths of Christians, and yet God forgave him and restored him. What do you need forgiveness for in your life? What about restoration?
2. Paul was absolutely sure he was pleasing God by persecuting the Christians, yet this is not what God wanted. How can you have assurance that you are pleasing God with your actions? [following the Bible's instructions of loving God and loving people, praying, listening to counsel of wise people]
3. Have you ever had to overcome your past and change your ways to be a more faithful servant like Paul did?