




On Sunday, we added our last key Bible word in our exploration of **"What is Salvation?"** God wants to **redeem** (set us free), **reconcile** (bring us home), **sanctify** (make us holy) and **transform** us by the renewal of our minds to be more and more like Jesus.

When it comes to **great stories of salvation, Saul of Tarsus** is a powerful example of **transformation**.

- **Acts 7:58-8:3** - Saul " \_\_\_\_\_ " of Stephen's execution and began " \_\_\_\_\_ " the church
- **Acts 26:9-20** - in his own words:
  - "I myself was convinced that I ought to do many things in opposing the name of Jesus"
  - "In this connection I journeyed to Damascus ... I saw on the way a light from heaven, brighter than the sun ... I heard a voice saying ... 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?'"
  - "'I have appeared to you for this purpose, to appoint you as a servant and witness ... to \_\_\_\_\_ their eyes...'"
    - "'so that they may \_\_\_\_\_ from darkness to light'" 
    - "'from the power of Satan \_\_\_\_\_ God'" 
    - "'that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are \_\_\_\_\_ by faith in me'" 



By the end of his life, this **transformed** man would write, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith" (2 Tim 4:6-8).

### For Class & Family Discussion:

- What was Stephen preaching in **Acts 7** that made the Jewish council so enraged?
- **Acts 22:3-5** and **Philippians 3:4-6** give us a little more of Saul's backstory. What stands out to you from these details?
- Why would Jesus say Saul was persecuting *him* in **Acts 26:14-15**?
- Reread the mission Jesus is sending Saul on in **Acts 26:18**. How would you summarize it?
- Let's revisit **Romans 12:1-2**, our key **transformation** passage from Sunday.
  - How did Saul present himself as "a living sacrifice" to God?
  - In what way was his mind "renewed" and his life "transformed"? **Philippians 3:7-11** might be a helpful reference here...
- Look at Paul's summary of his life in **1 Timothy 1:12-17**. What does he want all of us to understand?