



unexpected

THE DIVINE IN BETWEEN

ACTS 9:20-31

expect opposition with unexpected growth

I. A Realistic Promise

"And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." Matthew 16:18

II. A Repeating Paradigm



• IN DAMASCUS (vv. 20-25)

But Saul increased all the more in strength, and confounded the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus was the Christ. v. 22

• IN JERUSALEM (vv. 25-30)

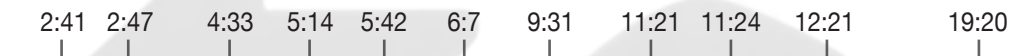
So he went in and out among them at Jerusalem, preaching boldly in the name of the Lord. v. 28

1. The identity and authority of Jesus is the core of the _____ message.
2. Questions of _____ are to be expected and provide opportunities for witness.
3. Differing contexts will require differing _____ in declaring and defending the faith.
4. God is sovereign and can be trusted to give _____ regarding when to stand firm or escape.

III. The Recurring Pattern in Acts (v. 31)

So the church throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria had peace and was being built up. And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, it multiplied. v. 31

GROWTH INDICATORS IN ACTS



Two keys to multiplying disciples and growing the church ...

1. Walking in the _____ of the Lord
2. Walking in the _____ of the Holy Spirit

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SERMON DEVOTIONAL STUDY

SOME OF THE HUNDREDS OF PROPHECIES FULFILLED IN JESUS

Fulfilled prophecy is one of the most powerful and common evidences for the Christian faith. There are Old Testament prophecies that foreshadow New Testament realities, and there are also predictive prophecies that point forward to the coming Messiah.

Pre-existent and divine Micah 5:2; Col 1:17

Line of Jesse and house of David Is 11:1-3; Rom 1:1-3

Prophet Deut 18:18; Matt 21:11

Judge Is 33:22; 2 Tim 4:1

King Psalm 2:6; Matt 27:37

Spirit of the Lord upon him Is 11:2, 42:1, 61:1-2; Matt 3:16; Mk 1:10; Lk 3:22, 4:18; Jn 1:32, 3:34; Acts 10:38

His Spirit poured out upon people Joel 2:28-32; Acts 2:16-23

Preceded by messenger Mal 3:1; Is 40:3; Matt 11:10; Mk 1:2-4, 7; Lk 7:27-28

Ministry of miracles Is 35:5-6; Matt 9:5

Enter the temple Malachi; Matt 21:12

Enter Jerusalem on a donkey Zech 9:9; Lk 19:35-37

Of the tribe of Judah Gen 49:10; Micah 5:2; Matt 1:1-3; Heb 7:14; Rev 5:5

Born in Bethlehem of Judea Micah 5:2-5; Matt 2:1-6

Born of a virgin Is 7:13-14; Matt 1:18-23; Lk 1:26-35

A "stone of stumbling" to the Jews Is 8:14; Rom 9:31-33; 1 Pet 2:6-8

A new everlasting covenant Jer 31:31-34; Lk 22:15-20; Heb 10:15-20

Hated without reason Ps 35:19, 69:4; Jn 15:24-25

Passover sacrifice with no bone broken Ex 12:46; Num 9:12; Ps 34:20; Jn 19:31-36

Hands and feet pierced Ps 22:16; Zech 12:10; Matt 27:35; Jn 20:25-29

Speak in parables Ps 78:2; Matt 13:10-16, 34-35; Lk 8:10

Pray for his enemies Ps 109:4; Matt 5:44; Lk 23:34

Raised from the dead Ps 16:8-11

Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal His truth and wisdom as you go through this lesson.

1. What insights into this passage did you receive from the sermon? Any thoughts that were new to you?

2. Read Acts 9:19b-31. Acts paints a picture from church history of ways the threat of persecution happens and how we should react to it. What progression have you seen of this growing threat so far in Acts?

3. Why do you think God allows some (like Stephen) to die, and others (like Saul) to be miraculously delivered?

4. Give examples of different contexts in which people might share the gospel, and how each requires its own unique approach. What are some ways you've approached certain people differently than others?

5. What was the Holy Spirit's role in the events of this passage? How are your observations relevant to your own life today?

6. What has the Holy Spirit prompted you to do after hearing this sermon and studying this passage?

A WONDERFUL OFFER

Being a Christian isn't based on membership in a local church or keeping a set of rules. It involves a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and an understanding of who He is and what He has done to provide man with a way to experience God's love for us. Here's how to know Jesus Christ as your personal Savior:

1. Realize that you are sinful and separated from God. (Romans 3:23; Isaiah 53:6)
 2. Recognize that the penalty for your sin is death—eternal separation from God and all that is good. (Romans 6:23; Hebrews 9:27)
 3. Understand that Jesus Christ took the penalty for your sin by dying in your place and that He rose again. (Romans 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:21)
 4. Receive the free gift of salvation by trusting in Christ alone as your Savior. (Romans 4:4-5; Ephesians 2:8-9)
- "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life." (John 3:16 NASB) You can use this prayer to express your decision to God:
- "Dear God, I know that I am a sinner. I believe that Jesus Christ died on the cross for me and rose from the dead. I trust in Him alone as the only way to get right with You. Thank You for the forgiveness of sins and the eternal life I now have. Amen."*

For more about having a personal relationship with Jesus visit www.ccbcfamily.org/nextsteps.

COMING UP AT CHRIST CHAPEL

Here's a glimpse at what you need to know for this week at Christ Chapel. If you'd like to find out even more, visit www.ccbcfamily.org/events.

QUILTING FOR LIFE Support our wonderful pregnancy center partners by creating quilts that are given to mothers after their first sonograms! Join us on Tuesday, July 11 from 1-2:30 p.m. in the Oak Room.

LUNCH WITH A MISSIONARY Ever wonder about our Global Missions Ministry? Join us Sunday, July 16 for *Lunch With a Missionary!* Fellowship with one another and learn how to support the persecuted church around the world. We will be meeting in the Oak Room at 12:30 p.m. If you would like to learn more, visit www.ccbcfamily.org/lunch.

RE/ENGAGE YOUR MARRIAGE reengage offers hope to marriages by helping couples move toward oneness through stories of grace, teaching and small groups. Classes begin Tuesday, Aug. 15! Register today by visiting www.ccbcfamily.org/reengage.

KIDSCAMP TO GO Be a part of the largest outreach program of the year and take KidsCamp to your neighborhood! Equipped with all the supplies and teaching materials needed, you'll have everything to share the hope of Jesus and take the fun of KidsCamp to your community. Learn more about this REACH opportunity that the whole family can do together by visiting www.ccbcfamily.org/togo.

BE, MAKE AND REACH WITH LIVE PRODUCTION If you have experience and interest in live production and camera operation, we'd love to chat with you about volunteering with our Production Team. Get the conversation started by visiting www.ccbcfamily.org/production.

MANPOWER Hoping to create a space for widows to experience encouragement and practical support, Christ Chapel hosts one Saturday every month for our ManPower group to help with outdoor projects and home maintenance tasks. Learn more about being a part by emailing ManPower@christchapelbc.org.

ENCOURAGED & EQUIPPED Our Women's ministry has an incredible resource for you! Search for the *Encouraged & Equipped* podcast and hear stories from other CCBC women as they share about how the gospel has changed their lives and what that practically looks like in the everyday. From their wisdom to all the laughs, you'll want to join in on the conversation! Find it today on your favorite podcast platforms.

THERE'S A JOB FOR YOU From facilities and worship to students and creative, every role at Christ Chapel makes it possible for us to make much of Jesus! We want to invite you into a conversation about being a part of our team today. Visit www.ccbcfamily.org/jobs to get started.



LOOKING FOR THE CONNECT CARD? Scan the QR code here to fill out a Connect Card. Our team will reach out this week to answer your questions and tell you more about Christ Chapel.

IF YOU'D LIKE TO GIVE AN OFFERING TODAY, YOU CAN DO SO STRAIGHT FROM YOUR PHONE. The process is quick and easy—text GIVE to 24253 to get started.