



# The Next Journey



NORTH VALLEY CHURCH

The Next Journey

*Following Paul's Lead*



# The Next Journey

## *Saul of Tarsus*

- Born a Roman Jew
- Not a Disciple
- Did not meet Jesus in Flesh
- On the Road, Tent-Maker
- Wrote 13 books of the bible
- Became disliked by the Jews for spreading Jesus' words



# The Next Journey

## *Paul's Healing*

*From confusion*

<sup>3</sup> As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. <sup>4</sup> He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" <sup>5</sup> "Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked.

"I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting," he replied.

<sup>6</sup> "Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do." [Acts 9:3-6]



# The Next Journey

## *Paul's Healing*

*A continuous process*

<sup>7</sup>In order to keep me from becoming conceited, I was given a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. <sup>8</sup> Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. <sup>9</sup> But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me.

[2 Corinthians 12:7-9]



# The Next Journey

## *Paul's Equipping* *Before he met Jesus*

<sup>2</sup> Then Paul said: <sup>3</sup> “I am a Jew, born in Tarsus of Cilicia, but brought up in this city. I studied under Gamaliel and was thoroughly trained in the law of our ancestors. I was just as zealous for God as any of you are today. <sup>4</sup> I persecuted the followers of this Way to their death, arresting both men and women and throwing them into prison,

[Acts 22:2-4]



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## *Paul's Equipping* *After he met Jesus*

<sup>29</sup> He talked and debated with the Hellenistic Jews, but they tried to kill him. <sup>30</sup> When the believers learned of this, they took him down to Caesarea and sent him off to Tarsus.

[Acts 9:29-30 ](A.D. 38-48)



# The Next Journey *Paul's Commissioning* *His first Missionary Journey*

<sup>1</sup> Now in the church at Antioch there were prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen (who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch) and Saul.





# The Next Journey *Paul's Commissioning* *His first Missionary Journey*

<sup>2</sup> While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.” <sup>3</sup> So after they had fasted and prayed, they placed their hands on them and sent them off.

[Acts 13:1-3]



# The Next Journey *Paul's Commissioning* *To the Gentiles*

<sup>44</sup> On the next Sabbath almost the whole city gathered to hear the word of the Lord. <sup>45</sup> When the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy. They began to contradict what Paul was saying and heaped abuse on him.

<sup>46</sup> Then Paul and Barnabas answered them boldly: “We had to speak the word of God to you first.



# The Next Journey *Paul's Commissioning* *To the Gentiles*

Since you reject it and do not consider yourselves worthy of eternal life, we now turn to the Gentiles. <sup>47</sup> For this is what the Lord has commanded us: “I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth.” <sup>48</sup> When the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and honored the word of the Lord; and all who were appointed for eternal life believed.

[Acts 13:44-48]



# The Next Journey *Paul's Commissioning* *To the Gentiles*

This is what an *empowered* person looks like:

- Healing - “I am in a process of healing and freeing myself from past hurts and confusion.”
- Equip - “I am growing in my abilities to minister in God’s kingdom with my unique gifts and abilities.”
- Commission – “God has called me to this role in His kingdom.”





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