

## LG Discussion Questions

An Unlikely Encounter – Acts 22: 1-21

Easter Sunday – April 4, 2010

Summary – The story of Paul’s conversion is one of the most powerful accounts and most neglected apologetics of the reality of the bodily resurrection of Jesus Christ. Paul was a young Jewish religious leader and to the young church was public enemy # 1, committed to stamping out the new faith spreading throughout Jerusalem and beyond. He was en route to arrest and imprison more believers when Jesus converted him on the road to Damascus. The story stands as solid historical evidence of the reality of the resurrection, and also teaches us several lessons about how God works to bring people to Himself.

1. If you’re a believer in the church in Jerusalem and Paul walks in, what are you thinking?
2. Why is Paul’s story told three times in the book of Acts? Nearly 10% of the book is the story of Paul’s conversion (think of the high value the Bible puts on a personal testimony).
3. How had God spoken to Paul prior to the Damascus road? What had Paul’s response been? (cf. Acts 26:14)
4. Why did Paul glory in the cross of Christ? (Gal. 6:14) Why is that strange for a guy like Paul?
5. How has God used drastic means or other means to get your attention?
6. Who is your most unlikely to have an encounter with Christ?
7. How hard was Ananias’ assignment? 22:12-16 What does this tell us about him?
8. How do you convince a person who’s sincere in what they believe, that they may be sincerely wrong?
9. How does the “hope for the hopeless” application apply to you?
10. How does Paul’s story impact your prayer life (pray for an unlikely)? Your faith (He can change anyone)? Your evangelism (tell my story, engage the unlikely)?

Rabbit Trail of the week: Who can think of a prominent NT figure who had a significantly less dramatic conversion? Which conversion is more desirable to you?