



1. Encouraged by the faithfulness of a friend (Acts 9:26–27)

When Saul arrives in Jerusalem, the disciples are afraid and unwilling to believe he is truly a follower of Jesus. Yet Barnabas bridges the gap between suspicion and acceptance and opens the door for Saul's ministry.

Application Questions

1. On what basis did Barnabas trust Saul?
2. Why is Barnabas effective in helping Saul's ministry?
3. Have you ever experienced a time when someone's encouragement helped others see the change God was doing in you?

2. Encouraged by the acceptance of the church (Acts 9:28)

After Barnabas speaks for Saul, the apostles receive him. Saul begins moving freely among the believers in Jerusalem, preaching boldly in the name of the Lord. The church's willingness to receive him affirms his calling and allows his ministry to flourish.

Application Questions

1. What is significant about Paul's going in and out among the apostles at this time?
2. How can the acceptance and encouragement of the church help people grow into the calling God has placed on their lives?

3. Encouraged to endure through opposition (Acts 9:29–30)

The one who once persecuted believers is now experiencing the same opposition. The believers protect him and help him escape to Caesarea and then to Tarsus.

Application Questions

1. What effect did Saul's own persecution have on the apostles?
 1. What kinds of opposition or pressure make it difficult for you to speak openly about your faith?
 2. Where might God be calling you to speak truth even when it costs you comfort or reputation?

4. Encouraged by the fruitfulness of the church (Acts 9:31)

The early church at this time was multiplying. Even after persecution and hardship, God continues to grow His church.



BE ENCOURAGED

Acts 9:26–31 | Pastor Mohan Zachariah

3/8/2026

Application Questions

1. How does this verse challenge the idea that the church must have perfect circumstances to grow?
2. What does it mean for believers to walk both in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit?
3. How can your life contribute to the strengthening and multiplication of the church?