

BE A BRINGER

“40 One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. 41 He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated, the Christ). 42 And he brought him to Jesus....”
John 1:40-42a


A bringer makes one touch each week by investing and inviting someone to Christ and church.

Name three people you will pray for their salvation this week:

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE WEEK

“Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you;....” I Samuel 12:23a

MISSIONARY OF THE WEEK



Denise Carter | Ukraine

1. Praise for our youth and their desire to serve the Lord in our children’s Bible Club, in church services, and in the Coffee House outreach.
2. Pray with us for God’s timing to be perfect for when we begin to build our new church.
3. Pray for the children in our Bible Club to understand the Gospel and come to know Jesus.

GROWTH
GUIDE

WELCOME
Home

Handout: 07/12/20
Study: 07/19/20

Finding Home With Church

“There was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias” (Acts 9:10). That’s all we get. We don’t have any indication that Ananias had any special education or training. We don’t know if he was young or old, what he did for a living, or what his family was like. We have no idea whether he was a man of great or little standing in his community. We only know that he was a follower of Jesus. Just a regular, old disciple that was ready when the Lord called his name:

And the Lord said to him in a vision, “Ananias!” “Here I am, Lord!” he said. “Get up and go to the street called Straight,” the Lord said to him, “to the house of Judas, and ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul, since he is praying there. In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias coming in and placing his hands on him so he can regain his sight.”

“Lord,” Ananias answered, “I have heard from many people about this man, how much harm he has done to Your saints in Jerusalem. And he has authority here from the chief priests to arrest all who call on Your name.”

But the Lord said to him, “Go! For this man is My chosen instrument to take My name to Gentiles, kings, and the Israelites. I will show him how much he must suffer for My name!” (Acts 9:10-16).

Ananias was understandably a little nervous about the call. He knew this man’s reputation. The city was already buzzing about his imminent arrival and what would happen to the church there. He was apprehensive at best; fearful at worst. But when it came to it, he chose to believe in the power and presence of God, and so he went. And his response, upon meeting Saul, is telling: “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road you were traveling, has sent me so that you can regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit” (Acts 9:17).

Brother. How sweet those words must have been to the ears of the blind man. How he must have perked up when he heard them. This was not the voice of self-importance. This was not the sound of arrogance. This, Saul knew, was a friend. This was someone who was indeed sent by Jesus, one who could speak just a little bit of clarity into the ball of confusion that was Saul’s life.

We are not all called to be Paul. We aren’t all going to be the one out front, the one leading the crowd, the one who is recognized for their impact. But all of us are called to be Ananias. As we live and move as relational beings in the midst of these creatures of God, we are meant to push back the darkness and bring light one interaction at a time. We are meant to be looking – and looking with expectation – for where the sovereign hand of God is positioning us.

Source: “Not Everyone Can Be Paul. But Everyone Can Be Ananias.” by Michael Kelley

KEY VERSE

Acts 9:28 (NKJV)

So he was with them at Jerusalem, coming in and going out.

WEEKLY READINGS

Monday: Acts 9:10-28

Introduction

1. Based on today's scripture reading, what are some ways God used the early church?
2. What are some ways that Capital Baptist Church has helped you to grow in your relationship with Jesus?

Tuesday: Acts 9:10-19; Matthew 28:19-20; II Timothy 2:2

Make Disciples

3. What characteristics of a disciple do you see in the examples of Ananias and Saul?
4. How do you think the time that Saul spent with the believers in Damascus (Acts 9:19) helped him? How does our church make disciples?

Wednesday: Acts 9:20-22; II Corinthians 5:16-21; Ezekiel 36:26

Experience Life Change

5. What evidence can we see from scripture that Saul's life changed?
6. What evidence is there in your life that you have been changed? How has church impacted your life change?

Thursday: Acts 9:23-25; II Timothy 3:12; John 15:13

Protect Believers

7. Why did Saul need to be protected? How did the church help him?
8. What do believers need protection from today?
9. What are some ways that the church has protected you?

Friday: Acts 9:26-28; Acts 11:25-26; I Thessalonians 5:11

Encourage Guests

10. What concern did the disciples in Jerusalem have about Saul? What would you have thought about Saul coming to visit you?
11. What did Barnabas do to encourage the disciples to receive Saul? Why do you think Barnabas was willing to do this?
12. The name Barnabas literally means "Son of Encouragement" (Acts 4:36). What can we learn about the example of Barnabas?