

The Power of The Resurrection

Bob Schwahn | Lead Pastor | March 31, 2024

Acts 9:1-6 (NIV)

¹ Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples. He went to the high priest ² and asked him for letters to the synagogues in Damascus, so that if he found any there who belonged to the Way, whether men or women, he might take them as prisoners to Jerusalem. ³ As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴ He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?"

⁵ "Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked.

"I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting," he replied. 6 "Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do."

"You can safely assume you've created God in your own image when it turns out that God hates all the same people you do."

— Anne Lamott

Philippians 3:10-11 (NIV)

¹⁰ I want to know Christ–yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.

Philippians 3:8b-9 (NIV)

that I may gain Christ 9 and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ-the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith.

Reflection Questions:

- 1) Have you had seasons in your life where you were running from God? What was that experience like? How did it change?
- 2) How are you experiencing the challenge and change of God in your life? Why is experiencing the challenge and change of God crucial to following Him? If we are not being challenged and changed what could that be evidence of?
- 3) How have you seen the resurrected Jesus meet you in your times of need? Despair. Anxiety. Doubt. Failure. Rebellion. Indifference. Where do you need Him to meet you today?
- 4) How have you seen the tendency to create God in our image? Why are we prone to assume that God is who we imagine Him to be rather than who He really is? How can make sure that our image of God is accurate?