May 25, 2014

WHAT WE VALUE Part 1 Acts 9:1-18

GRACE EXPERIENCED

Acts 9:1-2 – Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples. He went to the high priest 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. Acts 9:4 – He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" Acts 9:5-6 – "Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked.

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

GRACE EXAMINED

Two traits of God we will not understand on this side of Heaven <u>Election</u>

<u>Grace</u>

John 1:14 – The word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

2 Corinthians 8:9 – For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.

Romans 3:23-24 – For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

GRACE DISPLAYED

1 Corinthians 15:9 – For I am the least of the apostles and do not ever deserve to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.

1 Corinthians 15:10 – For by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I work harder than all of them – yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me.

CORE VALUE # 1: <u>Come as you are</u>

We are not perfect and do not expect you to be

CAR TALK:

When did you first understand the difference between grace and good works to have a relationship with God, and what did you do about it?

How do you display grace to those around you? How have Christians displayed grace to you?