

Paul's Enter's the Seminary of Jesus Christ
Galatians 1:17-24

Vs. 17 – Following his conversion Paul went to Arabia to be alone with Christ.

1. This is the only place that Paul mentions personal training with the Lord.
 - A. Paul knew the scripture
 - 1) Trained by the best Pharisees
 - B. But what Paul didn't know was
 - 1) How to live with Christ day by day
 - 2) How to apply Christ to the scripture he knew
 - 3) How to handle the word of truth.
2. Paul had launched a campaign of hatred and murder against followers of Christ.
 - A. Paul desired to stop Christianity.
3. Paul encountered God on his way to Damascus, and everything changed.

Principle – Personal growth in the Lord only comes by spending time with the Lord

Paul returned to Damascus – Vs. 17b

1. Paul had gone to Damascus to kill, steal, and destroy (the works of Satan – John 10:10)
 - A. Paul wanted to return to make it right with them.

Paul returns to Jerusalem to face his past – Vs. 18-20

Two Reasons Paul had to Go Back To Jerusalem

1. Reason #1 - To share Christ with these friends and these one-time co-workers
 - A. What a risk
 - 1) Many if they had heard what happen to Paul was now labeling him as a betrayer.
 - a. Paul was putting his own life in danger
 - B. God doesn't save us and remove us from our lives.
 - 1) God saves us and puts on the mission field in our lives.
2. Reason #2 – Paul wanted to see Peter
 - A. Why? Peter the leader of early Christianity
 - 1) If Paul could share with Peter and let him see his conversion they would accept him and his ministry.

Paul returned home – Vs. 21

- A. It was Paul's desire to share Christ with as many family and friends as he could

Matthew 5:16 (NKJV)

¹⁶ Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

The results of a God-centered life – Vs. 22-24

Two Results

1. People hear about what Christ is doing through you (vs. 22-23)

2. It glorified God

Points of Application

First – We must make time in our schedule to be alone with Jesus.

Second – Live humbly and boldly among those you are with daily.

Third – Don't let your past derail you from living your life for Christ.

Fourth – God didn't change who you are at salvation. God changed your eternal destination.

Conclusion

1. God saved you to use you.
2. God saved you to reflect Jesus to those you are around daily.
3. Your mission field is right where you live.
4. Our responsibility is to "Know Him and Make Him Know"