

*Sermon Questions for Life Groups*

**ONLY ONE GOSPEL**

***The Gospel & the Terrorist, Galatians 1:11-24***

***Pastor John Mahaffey***

**Sunday, September 24, 2017**

*These questions are generated by several authors for Life Group discussions  
or family or personal devotions*

1. Saul could be construed to be a terrorist by way of our present-day understanding of how a terrorist could be defined. What did Paul do that may make this comparison seem plausible? See also Galatians 1: 13-14 and Acts 7: 54-60.
2. In addition to today's passage, read Acts 26:1-32. What strikes you about Paul's testimony?
3. In verses Galatians 1:11 -12 Paul states his theme: his message and ministry are of divine origin. How does Paul prove this? How does he show that the gospel is a revelation of God? What does his personal testimony demonstrate? What significance has this for you?
4. In these verses Paul describes his life before his conversion. What two things does he mention? In what way are these two things important to his overall argument that the gospel did not originate with him?
5. How does Paul describe his conversion beginning at verse 15? What specifically did God do? See also Acts 9:1-18; 22:1-21; 26:9-23 for a full account of Paul's conversion
6. After Paul was converted what did Paul do and not do? In what way were these things important to the overall argument he is making about the gospel and his apostleship?
7. As Paul did everything right to please God from a strong Jewish perspective, so did the young man in Matthew 19:16ff. Where is the gospel in this account?

8. Read 1 Corinthians 1:18-30. While describing the Gospel, Pastor John said that nobody would create a gospel like this one because it is not based on human merit. People want to earn their salvation.
  - a.) Why do you think people naturally want to earn their way into heaven?
  - b.) What makes the world think that the gospel is foolishness?
  - c.) How does using our weakness or our foolishness bring more glory to God than using the strong or the wise?
  - d.) Why is it so important to God that nobody ever be able to boast in His presence?
  
9. In this week's message, we learned the story of how God used the circumstances in Saul's life to bring about his conversion. How did God use the circumstances of your life, right from your birth, to bring about your conversion to faith in Him? How was God gracious to you?
  
10. Write out your own testimony in a paragraph or two. Include something of your life before Christ, how God worked in your heart to bring you to Christ and the difference it made in your life. Pray for an opportunity to share your testimony and magnify God's grace in your life.