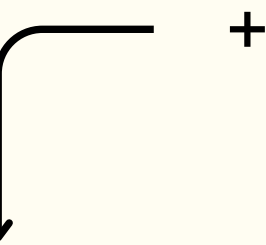


Acts.

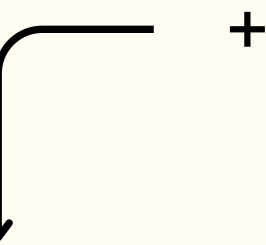


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And Saul approved of their killing him (Stephen). On that day a great persecution broke out against the church in Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were scattered throughout Judea and Samaria.² Godly men buried Stephen and mourned deeply for him.³ But Saul began to destroy the church. Going from house to house, he dragged off both men and women and put them in prison.

ACTS 8:1-3 NIV



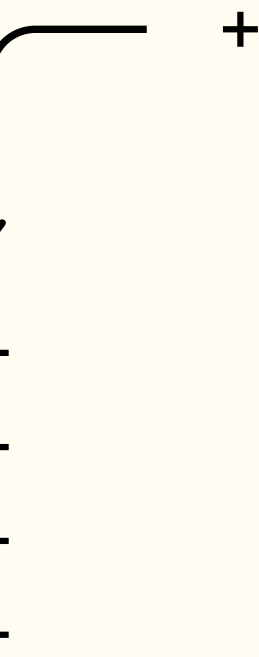


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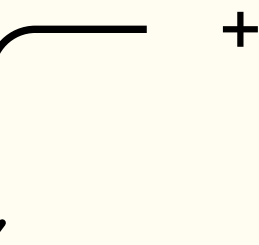
Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the Lord’s disciples. He went to the high priest ² and asked him for letters to the synagogues in Damascus, so that if he found any there who belonged to the Way, whether men or women, he might take them as prisoners to Jerusalem.
³ As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him.

ACTS 9:1-3 NIV





Saul / Paul



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Saul / Paul

“Then Saul, who was also called Paul...”

ACTS 13:9 NIV

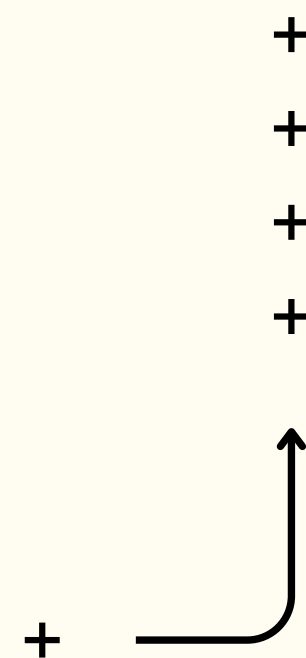


Saul

THE PERSECUTOR

For you have heard of my previous way of life in Judaism,
**how intensely I persecuted the church of God and tried to
destroy it.**

GALATIANS 1:13 NIV

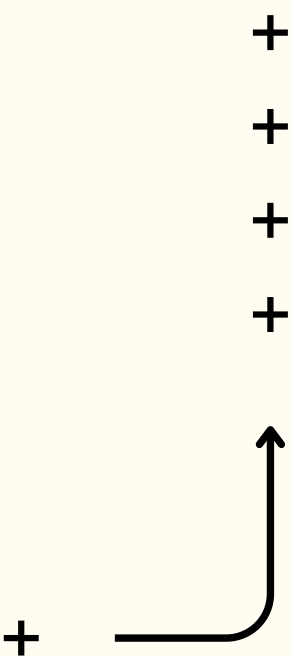


Saul

THE PERSECUTOR

Many a time I went from one synagogue to another to have them punished, and I tried to **force them to blaspheme**. I was so obsessed with persecuting them that I even hunted them down in foreign cities.

ACTS 26:11 NIV

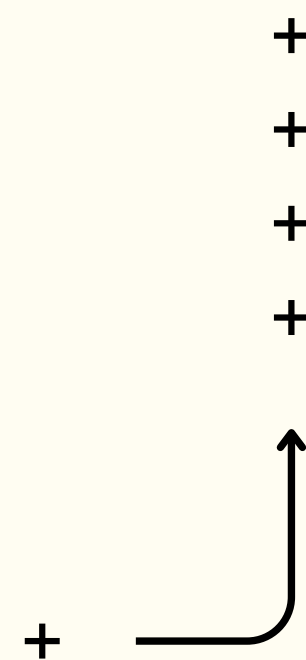


Saul

THE PERSECUTOR

I persecuted the followers of this Way to their death, arresting both men and women and throwing them into prison,⁵ as the high priest and all the Council can themselves testify. I even obtained letters from them to their associates in Damascus, and went there to bring these people as prisoners to Jerusalem to be punished.

ACTS 22:4-5 NIV

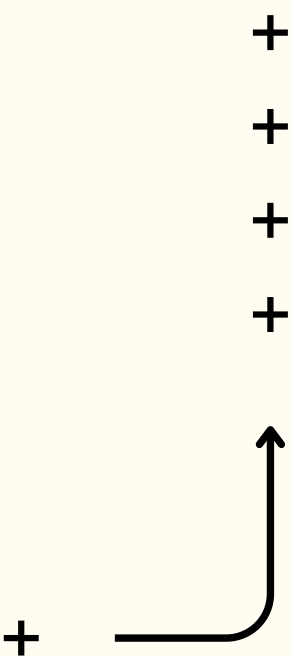


Saul

THE PERSECUTOR

I was personally unknown to the churches of Judea that are in Christ.
²³ They only heard the report: “The man who formerly **persecuted** us
is now preaching the faith **he once tried to destroy.**”

GALATIANS 1:22-23 NIV

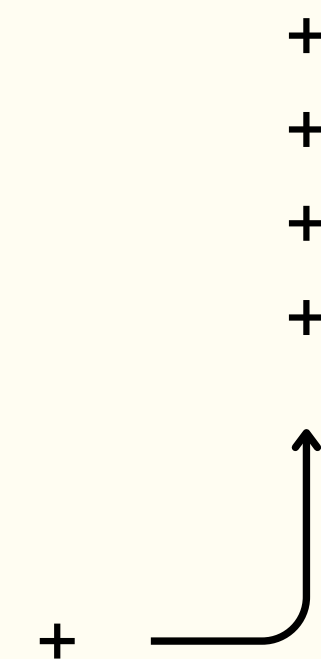


Saul

THE PERSECUTOR

But Saul began to **destroy the church**. Going from house to house, he dragged off both men and women and put them in prison.

ACTS 8:3 NIV

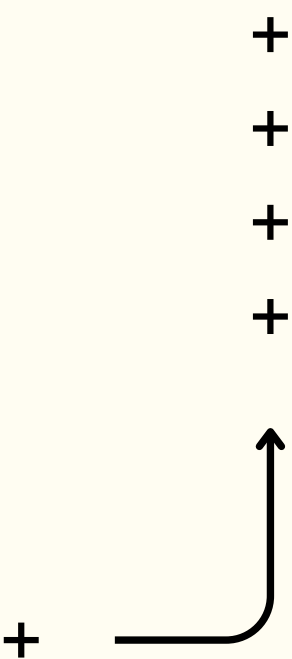


Saul

THE PERSECUTOR

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.

ACTS 9:1-2 NIV

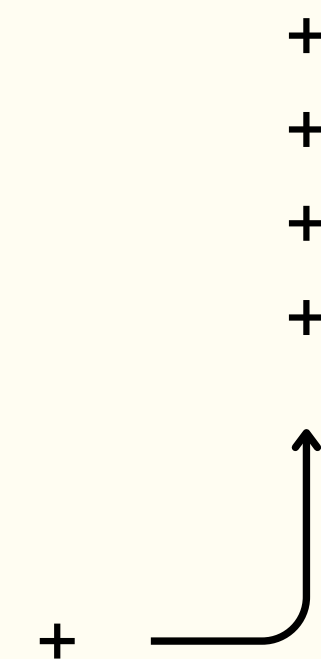


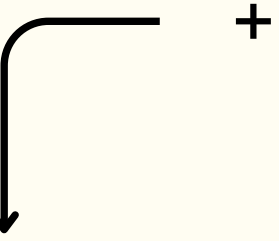
Jesus

THE LIGHT

As he neared Damascus on his journey...

ACTS 9:3A NIV





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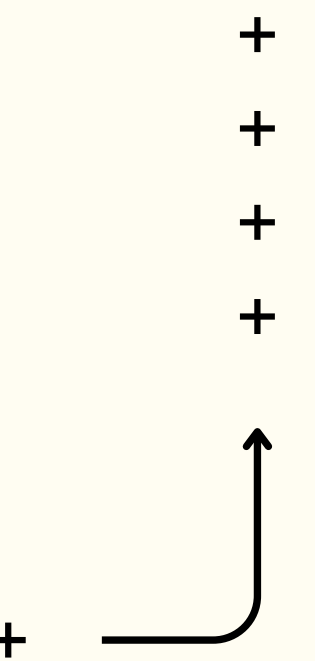


Jesus

THE LIGHT

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.” ⁷ The men traveling with Saul stood there speechless; they heard the sound but did not see anyone.

ACTS 9:3-7 NIV

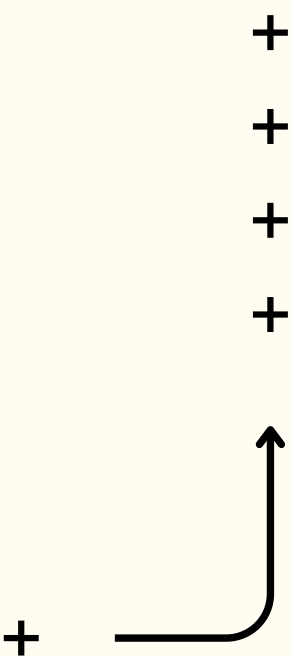


Saul

THE PERSECUTED

Saul got up from the ground, but when he opened his eyes he could see nothing. So they led him by the hand into Damascus.⁹ For three days he was blind, and did not eat or drink anything.

ACTS 9:8-9 NIV

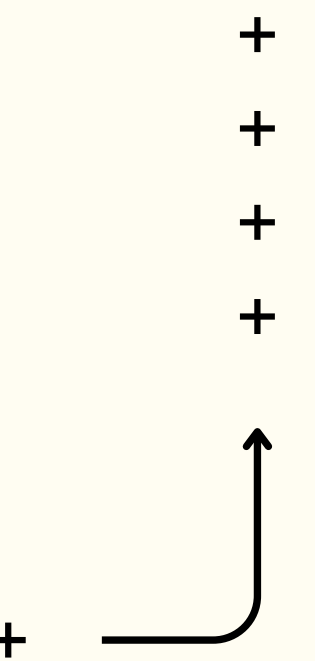


Ananias

THE FAITHFUL DISCIPLE

In Damascus there was a disciple named Ananias. The Lord called to him in a vision, “Ananias!” “Yes, Lord,” he answered. ¹¹ The Lord told him, “Go to the house of Judas on Straight Street and ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul, for he is praying. ¹² In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias come and place his hands on him to restore his sight.”

ACTS 9:10-12 NIV

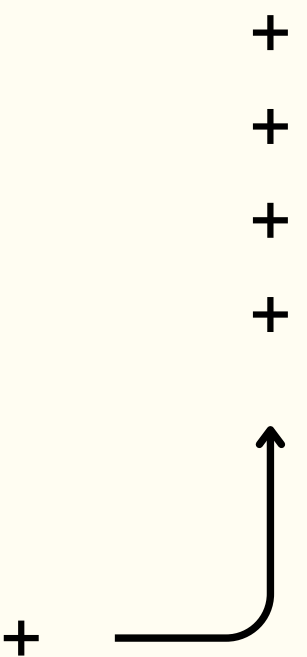


Ananias

THE FAITHFUL DISCIPLE

“Lord,” Ananias answered, “I have heard many reports about this man and all the harm he has done to your holy people in Jerusalem.
¹⁴ And he has come here with authority from the chief priests to arrest all who call on your name.”

ACTS 9:13-14 NIV

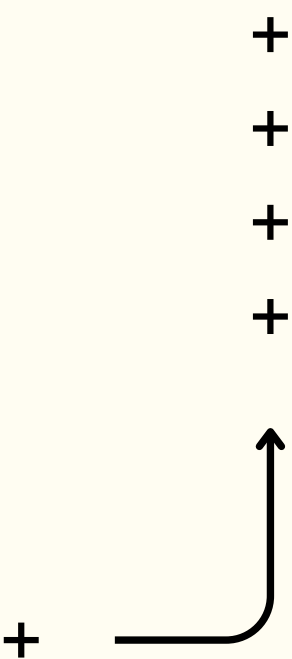


Ananias

THE MESSENGER

But the Lord said to Ananias, “Go! This man is my chosen instrument to proclaim my name to the Gentiles and their kings and to the people of Israel. ¹⁶ I will show him how much he must suffer for my name.”

ACTS 9:15-16 NIV

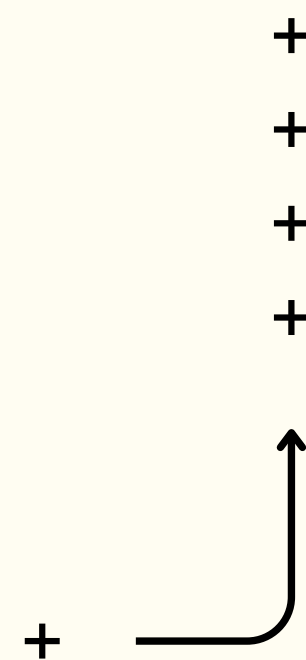


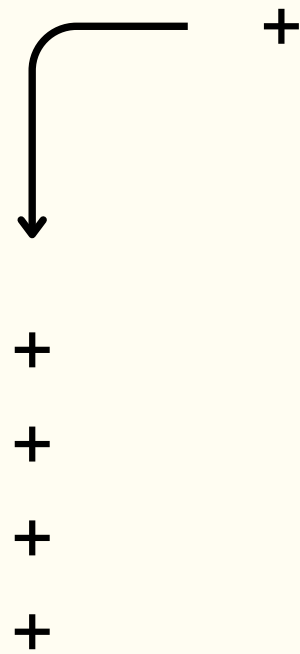
Saul

THE NEW CREATION

Then Ananias went to the house and entered it. Placing his hands on Saul, he said, “Brother Saul, the Lord—Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you were coming here—has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit.”¹⁸ Immediately, something like scales fell from Saul’s eyes, and he could see again. He got up and was baptized,¹⁹ and after taking some food, he regained his strength. Saul spent several days with the disciples in Damascus.

ACTS 9:17-19 NIV





Tell your story...
share your faith.

THE GOSPEL (GOOD NEWS)

- We are sinners and are separated from God.
- Jesus died for our sins and rose from the grave.
- Jesus offers the gift of eternal life to all who will receive it.
- Believe and receive this gift by faith.

Insights

+ We don't find God, He finds us.

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Insights

- + We don't find God, He finds us.
- + He can **reach** the worst of us.

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Insights

- + We don't find God, He finds us.
- + He can **reach** the worst of us.
- + He can **redeem** the worst in us.

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Insights

- + We don't find God, He finds us.
- + He can **reach** the worst of us.
- + He can **redeem** the worst in us.
- + He can **use** each of us for His purposes.

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Insights

- + We don't find God, He finds us.
- + He can **reach** the worst of us.
- + He can **redeem** the worst in us.
- + He can **use** each of us for His purposes.
- + When He calls, listen & respond.

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