

Saturday & Sunday, November 10 & 11, 2018 - "Unsung Heroes - Week 10: Ananias" - Norflette Shumake

Key Passages: Acts 9:10-19, Acts 8:1

- Feel free to read the passage(s) out loud as a group
- Allow the group to share freely about what stood out to them from the passage or from Sunday's message

Main Ideas

- Unsung Hero = one who does good deeds but receives little or no recognition for it
- This week's unsung hero: Ananias the disciple
- Acts 9
  - The book of Acts is about action
  - A community living out the great commandment and the great commission
  - God is up to something...have we surrendered to God's movement
- Every move of God will meet some opposition
  - But we don't face it alone (God is with us, for us, and in us)
  - The believers in Acts knew how to rejoice in opposition
- It was dangerous for Ananias to be a follower of Jesus (Acts 8:1)
  - Stephen was executed (died for doing good)
  - The church was scattered and persecuted
- Saul threatened and murdered...people like Ananias
  - Could the people we hate have the answers that we need
  - Could someone we don't like be who God has called us to?
- Ananias was a "Hear & Obey" Disciple
  - He was **AVAILABLE**
    - "Lord HERE I AM"
    - God is not asking for your resume he is looking to use people who are available (Isaiah, Abraham, Mary)
    - Do you trust God enough to yield to Him?
    - We can trust Him because he knows us (He called Ananias by name)
    - God knew Paul and that he needed God's grace...and the grace of believers
  - He was **COURAGEOUS**
    - Ananias knew who Saul was
    - Courage to go...**FAITH TO RISK**
  - He was **TEACHABLE**
    - He was willing to change his view about Saul
    - We need to relate to people on who they are and could be, rather than what they have done
  - He was **SPIRIT-INFLUENCED**
    - Lord lead me, Lord fill me
    - Ananias called Saul his brother
    - We have received Grace so we have...Grace to give
- We are on mission for God and we have to be ACTS = Available, Courageous, Teachable, and Spirit-Influenced)

Questions (Feel free to use all of these, some of these, or none of these)

1. How is God challenging you to trust him so that you can yield to Him?
2. Where is God asking you to be available? Who is he asking you to be available to?
3. What are you willing to risk for God and his mission? What are you not willing to risk?
4. Give an example of a time when you said "Lord, here I am" and saw Him move
5. How is God calling you to surrender to his movement?
6. What is God inviting you into as a result of this passage or sermon?

**\*\*15 Minutes with God Reading Plan-**

**Mon: Genesis 26 Tues: Genesis 27 Wed: Genesis 28 Thurs: Genesis 29 Fri: Genesis 30**

**Songs from the weekend: [Higher - Grace Worship Original] - [Your Ways - Grace Worship Original] - [Everlasting God - William Murphy] - [Surrounded (How I Fight My Battles - Upperroom]**