

What “Good” People Also Need!

Bible passage

Acts 9: 1-20 *Saul's Conversion*

3 When Saul had almost reached Damascus, a bright light from heaven suddenly flashed around him. ⁴ He fell to the ground and heard a voice that said, ‘Saul! Saul! Why are you so cruel to me?’ (CEV)

Devotion

We all know this story. It is a story of conversion—perhaps the best known one of all. It is the story of an archenemy of the Church who became a brother—Saul, who became Paul! Even today, many Christians use Paul's conversion as the model for their own story—stories such as, “I was wild, bad and sinful. Then I had a Damascus Road experience—the Lord intervened and I was made new! I was addicted, but now I am free.”

These stories are gripping. But we should realize that Paul was not a wild or bad person. He was a “good” person. Yet after his Damascus experience, he makes the following remark about his good virtues: “But Christ has shown me that what I once thought was valuable is worthless. Nothing is as wonderful as knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. I have given up everything else and count it all as garbage. All I want is Christ” (Phil. 3:7-8, CEV).

The reality is that you might consider yourself as good person comparing to crooks and criminals but comparing to God we all fall short to the glory of God (Rom 3: 23). For this reason, “good” people also need to be converted to the One who washed away all our iniquity and cleansed us from our sin (Ps 51: 2).

Prayer

Create in me a pure heart, O God,
and renew a steadfast spirit within me. (Ps 51: 10 NIV).

Today's Quote

The question isn't were you challenged. The question is were you changed?

—Leonard Ravenhill

conversion