

The Damascus Detour (Acts 9:1-19)

CENTRAL LESSON: Christianity is about _____.

Latin: *convertere*, meaning _____

Greek: *epistrophe*, meaning _____

Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples. He went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues in Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, whether men or women, he might take them prisoners to Jerusalem. Acts 9:1-2 (NIV)

Here is a trustworthy statement that deserves full acceptance. Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst. But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his unlimited patience as an example for those who would believe on him and receive eternal life. 1 Timothy 1:15, 16 (NIV)

1. **Conversion comes as a result of** _____
_____.

As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" Acts 9:3,4 (NIV)

2. **Conversion means you have had a** _____
_____ **with the living Christ.**

"Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked. "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting," he replied. Acts 9:5 (NIV)

3. **Conversion results in** _____ **to the**
_____ **of Christ.**

"Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do." Acts 9:6 (NIV)

4. **Conversion is** _____ **but it is not**
_____.

"This man is my chosen instrument to carry my name before the Gentiles and their kings and before the people of Israel." Acts 9:15 (NIV)

5. **Conversion always leads to a** _____.

"I will show him how much he must suffer for my name." Acts 9:16 (NIV)