

MY NOTES

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US TODAY!

Thank you for joining us today. This is a short note to let you know that we know what you are thinking: It is hot and cramped in this room. We want to acknowledge with you that yes, the front room is full, the kids rooms are full, and it can get warm. We are working on alleviating this right now by building our own building on the land just north of us.

There is a lot that goes into the process of Element having a permanent home, but we hope that today you are first drawn to Jesus before you are overwhelmed by anything else. If it gets too hot, we may hand out popsicles to help you cool off and give you a sugar rush. If you would like a service that has open seats (and is cooler), you are invited to our 8:15 am service. Please understand that all of these “challenges” are because of our love for Jesus, people, and growth that has come quickly. These are good things. We hope you will stay as we work to make more room for you to be part of the good thing Jesus is doing here. If you would like more information about our building process or how you can participate, you can visit: www.elementroots.org.

- The Element Team

Week 26

ACTS

A Passion that
Speaks Through Us

TODAY'S VERSES:

Acts 9:19-25

Acts 9:4

Acts 5:36-37

Job 1:6

Exodus 4:22-23

Psalms 82:6-7

Matthew 17:15

Mark 9:7

Acts 4:24-26

Matthew 7:24

John 3:16

Philippians 2:5-8

UPCOMING @ ELEMENT

Missions Trip Fundraiser

BBQ & Rummage Sale
Saturday, August 27th

Redemption Groups

Start September 9th.
Applications available
at the Welcome Center
or online at:
[ourelement.org/
redemption](http://ourelement.org/redemption)

eKids! Baptism Information Meeting

Sunday, August 18th at
9:30 am Service.





So far in Acts:

Guidance That Leads Us

A Heritage That
Informs Us

Worship That
Reminds Us

Preaching That
Changes Us

Generosity That
Defines Us

Compassion That Is
Bigger Than Us

Truth That
Challenges Us

Community That
Encourages Us

Membership That
Accounts For Us

Accountability That
Exposes Us

A Hope That Heals Us

A Joy In Our Identity

A Lifestyle of Mission

Leadership That Grows
Through Mistakes

A Peace That
Speaks For Us

A Theology That
Informs Us

A Calling That Kills Us

Words That Scatter Us

A Spirit That Humbles Us

A Baptism That
Unifies Us

A Discipline That
Restores Us

Week 26 – Acts 9:19-25

Passion That Speaks Through Us

Today is week 26 of our series through the first half of the book of Acts. In Acts we see the beginnings of the early church, what God did, and how He moved His grace forward. Our hope is that if you someday move away from the area you will know what things to look for in a church because of what we study in this series. A church should love Jesus, teach truth, but also be humble enough to admit its mistakes and strong enough to stand by the vision that God gave it.

What things are you most passionate about?

How does that passion come out in what you say?

How does that passion come out in what you do?

The Apostle Paul speaks from a passion that comes from understanding Jesus and the great salvation He has received. We believe a church must live in this passion so that the truth of Jesus will live in and through us in a spirit of humility and grace.

Read Acts 9:19b-25

Why do you think Paul went to the synagogue first?

The word “church,” in the New Testament, and Greek Old Testament, is the word *ekklesia*. The word *ekklesia* comes from Greek political life and meant “an assembly of citizens.” In the Greek world citizens of cities would be called to come together by a herald sounding a trumpet. When called out they would gather at the “assembly,” the *ekklesia*. People outside the church called their gatherings *ekklesias* until late in the 4th century.

Ekklesia comes from the verb *ek-kaleo*, *ek* (out of) and *kaleo* (to call), meaning “to call out or call forth.” This term had great significance to God’s people because they believed they had been called out of the world by God himself. The word *ekklesia* was never used in the Greek world as the title of a religious group until Christians took it on. Typically, in the New Testament *Ekklesia* will refer to the people and *sunagoge* (synagogue) will refer to a gathering place. The Greek translation of the Old Testament, known as the Septuagint, will also make this distinction.

- Genesis 48:4 And said unto me, Behold, I will make thee fruitful, and multiply thee, and I will make of thee **a multitude of people**; and will give this land to thy seed after thee for an everlasting possession.
- Psalm 149:1 Praise ye the LORD. Sing unto the LORD a new song, and His praise in the **congregation of saints**.
- 1 Corinthians 15:9 For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the **church** of God

What is your definition of “the church”?

How could the understanding that the church is “the people” change how we view churches?

The first place Paul goes after becoming a follower of Jesus is to the synagogue, the corporate assembly of God’s people...and he teaches that Jesus is the unique son of God. Paul, who once believed Jesus couldn’t be the savior because He was killed on cross, now starts to teach Jesus is the Messiah BECAUSE he was killed and resurrected for our sins; he does this by using the term “son of God.” Everyone at that time focused on the verses about the Messiah’s victory, smashing His enemies to pieces, but Paul started to pull all the verses together, including the ones that focused on the Messiah’s rejection and defeat. Paul fuses both aspects of Messianic understanding to Jesus, as the one who suffered and was victorious, the true son of God.

What has been your understanding of the term “son of God?”

How does the suffering and victory of Jesus go hand in hand?

Jesus is uniquely the Son of God in the sense that He of all people who has ever lived, was completely obedient to the Father. Because Jesus was sinless, He has the title Son of God. In His ministry, Jesus not only bore our sins on the cross, but lived a perfect life in obedience to the Father through the power of the Holy Spirit in order to restore fallen humans to their original state of grace. It is not only through the grace of God that humans are initially saved, but also through this grace that we are also sustained.