



STOP LYING TO YOURSELF (Part 2) (When God Interrupts What You Believe)

Sunday, October 11, 2026

Text: Acts 9:1–19

Big Question: Name three things you were wrong about and no longer believe?

Note: Two lies God interrupted in my life

1. Finding romance is the most important pursuit in my life
2. Achieving a spiritually impressive status

Question: Can you name one of the lies that you believed?

Series Summary:

Part 1: *When Being Certain Doesn't Mean You're Right*
I may be wrong.

Part 2: *When God Interrupts What You Believe*
I must be willing to be confronted.

Part 3: *When You Need Somebody You Didn't Respect*
I may need to learn from somebody I dismissed.

Part 4: *When Reconsidering Changes Your Future*
Changing my mind can change my direction.

I. Paul felt an aggressive response was the only response

Acts 9:1–2 (NIV)

“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 there who belonged to the Way, whether men or women, he might take them as prisoners to Jerusalem.”

Notice the word “**still**”: Stephen is dead. Christians are scattered. People are suffering. Yet Paul is **still convinced**. He doesn’t wake up the next morning questioning himself. He doubles down. He gets authorization to take his convictions to another city.

Note: **One** of the dangers of believing you’re right is that contrary evidence can sometimes make you more determined instead of more reflective.

Question: **What** does it take to make you reconsider something you are convinced about?

II. Paul Had a “Knock Me Down or I Will Never Stop” Attitude (Acts 9:3–6) (NIV)

“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?’ ‘Who are you, Lord?’ Saul asked. ‘I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting,’ he replied. ‘Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do.’”

A. He Had to Be Knocked to the Ground

Note: Sometimes God has to stop your momentum before you will examine your direction.

B. He Had to Hear a Voice He Could Not Ignore

“Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?”

III. Paul Had to Be Blinded for Three Days

Acts 9:8–9 (NIV)

“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. **For three days he was blind** and did not eat or drink anything.”

IV. Paul Had to Be Mentored by Someone He Once Rejected

Acts 9:17–19 (NIV)

“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.’ Immediately, something like scales fell from Saul’s eyes, and he could see again. He got up and was baptized, and after taking some food, he regained his strength.”

Key Thought:

Sometimes God proves you are ready for your next level by making you learn from somebody you once dismissed.

Closing — What Did It Take to Change Paul’s Mind?

1. He had to be stopped.

- His momentum was interrupted.

2. He had to be confronted.

- Jesus challenged what he believed.

3. He had to admit he couldn't see.

- Certainty gave way to dependence.

4. He had to receive help.

- Someone he once rejected became part of his restoration.

What would it take for you to admit you might be wrong?

Closing Thought:

Wisdom is learning to reconsider before God has to knock you to the ground.

Next Time Part 3: *When You Need Somebody You Didn't Respect*

I may need to learn from somebody I dismissed.

Question: Looking back, who did you ignore that you should have listened to?