

**Series: The Blueprint for Church Health**  
**Message: Our Journey Begins with Jesus**  
**Text: Acts 9:1-23 (AM 9/09/07)**

**Intro:** It's fulfilling to be a part of a church that is on a journey with Jesus. After all Jesus is the *Founder, Cornerstone, Foundation, Builder and Head of His Church!* A quick survey of the Church in Acts reveals our Blueprint for the journey. The Body of Christ is a mosaic of believers who are on a journey with Jesus as well. Today we examine the life of Paul and learn how *our journey must begin with Jesus.*

**I. Persecuting the Church (1-2 & 4)**

*Being on the field but not on the team.*

When we are deceived we often find ourselves:

- Contagiously religious (1)
- Categorically rebuked (4)
- Even condemning the righteous (2)

**II. Professing the Christ (3-19)**

*Being on the team but not in the game.*

- We are convicted (3-5)
- We are converted (6 & 17-19)
- We are called (15)

**III. Proclaiming the Cross (20-23)**

*Being in the game until the last horn (trumpet)!*

- Committed to serve (20-21)
- Courageous in sharing (23)
- Confounding to the Saints (22)

**Application to life:** Paul didn't falter when he began His journey with Jesus. Where are you on the journey – *persecuting, professing or proclaiming?* If you've begun the journey take inventory to make sure you're *loving God, sharing life, serving others and showing Jesus to you world.*