

## Alarm Clock

“ How to Respond When Life Feels Like a Bad Dream ”

1. Remember God is Still in Control vv. 1-14

2. Be Guided by God's Word vv. 15-19a



# Grow Group Discussion Questions

A grow group is 8-16 people who get together weekly to study God's word and the previous Sunday's message. There is a time of discussion, support, encouragement, and learning how the message applies to daily life. **PCC uses the ESV (English Standard Version).**

## HOW DO I JOIN A GROUP?

To learn more or join a group, visit [pacificcoastchurch.org/gg/](http://pacificcoastchurch.org/gg/) or sign up at the patio Info Kiosk.

### Point #1

- Read Acts 9:1-14. Describe how you might have felt if you were Ananias. Why? In what way is Point #1 taking place?
- How does relying only on your ability to understand during challenging times ultimately impact faith? Give an example.
- In what way is Point #1 a challenge for you? Why? How can this story help you with a current challenge? Be specific.

### Point #2

- Read Acts 9:15-19a. In what way did Ananias move forward with regards to his skepticism about Saul? Why?
- How does this highlight the application of Point #2? Why will it always "feel" uncomfortable? Why is this important to know?
- Share a current challenge you are facing. What does God's word say about it? How will you apply Point #2?

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## Daily Devotions

These are provided for mid-week personal spiritual growth. Prayerfully writing out your answers will help you experience real life transformation as you dig deeper into the spiritual truths of God's word and today's message.

A downloadable PDF of this document is also available each week at [pacificcoastchurch.org/sermons](http://pacificcoastchurch.org/sermons).

### **MONDAY // Read Acts 7:58-59, 9:1-2, 22:3, 25:10-11, 26:9**

- What was Saul's reputation among the Christian communities? Why? How would you have viewed him at that time?
- In what way does this highlight the limits of an egocentric perspective? How does this ultimately impact faith?
- How does the Saul and Ananias situation help you expand your perspective during challenging times? Be specific.

### **TUESDAY // Read Acts 9:1-14, Ephesians 3:20-21**

- Given Saul was an up-and-coming Pharisee, how would you have responded if you were in Ananias' shoes? Why?
- What does this highlight about your limited perspective during challenging times? Why is this important to remember?
- What "bad dream" or challenge are you currently facing? What are some ways God is still in control?

### **WEDNESDAY // Read Acts 9:10-14, Romans 8:28-31, 2 Cor. 5:7, 1 Peter 1:3-7, 1 Cor. 13:4-7**

- Given no one likes challenging times, why are they also necessary? Give an example. What does this reveal about pain?
- How did this play out in both Saul and Ananias' lives? Explain how "hard" doesn't necessarily mean "bad".
- In what way can an unbiblical view about pain impact faith? Be specific. How do you need to adjust your perspective?

### **THURSDAY // Read Acts 9:14-19a, 22:12-16, 2 Timothy 3:16-17, Hebrews 4:12**

- Given Ananias' fear and skepticism about Saul's conversion, what did he ultimately end up doing? Why?
- Left to his own, what would Ananias have done without God's instruction and direction? Be specific.
- What does this highlight about letting God's word override fear and confusion? How does this encourage you?

### **FRIDAY // Read Acts 9:14-19a, Matthew 1:18-25**

- In what way is the Christmas story similar to Saul and Ananias' story? (Hint: letting God's word override feelings)
- What challenge or "bad dream" are you currently facing? What does God's word say to do or not to do? Be specific.
- Why is this an important part of faith? What can happen if you skip this process and rely on others' opinions?

### **SATURDAY // Read Acts 9:1-19a**

- As you re-read the story, why do you think God included it in His word? What message did God intend to teach us?
- In what way is this the central message to what it means to follow Jesus? Why will hard times expose a lack of faith?
- What is God teaching you this week about handling challenges and hard times? How does this also encourage you?

**MEDITATION VERSE:** ...for we walk by faith, not by sight.

**2 Corinthians 5:7**