

WEEKLY GAME PLAN

God's Not Mad

Read Acts 22:4-5 NIV

Context: There are times when we can believe our past disqualifies us from God's love or calling. Paul had a violent history of persecuting Christians, even to death. He was convinced he was serving God by doing so. He was convinced that he was serving the God that he learned about, but he didn't *know* God in an intimate, personal way. He only knew *of* God.

Reflection Question: What is something that you think you may be doing for God that He is not actually asking you to do? Why does having a personal relationship with Jesus equip you to do His will?

Read Acts 22:6-7

Context: Jesus will get our attention by any means necessary. And when Jesus arrests our attention, we should fall to our knees and take notice. He didn't show up to Paul and ask Paul why he was persecuting Stephen (see Acts 8:1) or the early church. Jesus asked Paul why he was persecuting *Him*. Jesus was after Paul's heart, after the relationship with him.

Reflection Question: How has Jesus tried to get your attention in the past? What was your response to Him then? Knowing that Jesus is still after the relationship with you, how can you respond to Him today? What's different now?

Read Acts 22:8

Context: But Jesus didn't come to condemn Paul; He came to *interrupt* his life with grace, truth, and a divine purpose. On the road to Damascus, Paul discovered that God wasn't mad at him, He was ready to meet him. Notice that when Paul asked, "Who are you, Lord?" Jesus didn't start with rebuke. He started with identity. "I am Jesus of Nazareth, whom you are persecuting."

Reflection Question: Where have you let shame or regret define your relationship with God? What would change in your life if you really believed that Jesus isn't mad at you — He just wants to meet you where you are?

Read Acts 22:8, 10 NIV

Context: Then when Paul asked, “What shall I do, Lord?” Jesus gave him clear instructions. *Get up. Go. Listen. Obey.* Jesus doesn’t need perfect people. He wants surrendered people. Paul didn’t need all the answers. He just needed the next step. Jesus didn’t show up to shame Paul, list out his sins, or disqualify him. Instead, He gave Paul clear direction and a new assignment. That same truth applies to us. Your worst mistakes don’t cancel out your mission. If anything, they make the grace of your calling even more powerful.

Reflection Question: What is one next step of obedience Jesus might be calling you to right now? What would it look like to say, “What shall I do, Lord?” and then actually follow through?

Read Ephesians 2:10 NLT

Context: Paul went from imprisoning Christians to being imprisoned *for* Christ. That’s a radical turnaround, but not because of Paul’s strength. It was God’s plan all along. Ephesians 2:10 reminds us that we are God’s masterpiece, created for good works that He prepared in advance for us to do. Jesus doesn’t call us back to our **mistakes**. He calls us forward to our **mission**.

Reflection Question: What “good works” do you think God may have created you for? How has your story, even the painful parts, shaped your mission? How does knowing you’re God’s masterpiece change the way you see yourself?

End in prayer. Let us know how we can be on mission with you as you move forward in Christ this week.