

## **Believing in People**

### **Acts 9:26-28**

- I. “He tried to join the disciples but they were all afraid of him, not believing that he was really a disciple,” Acts 9:26.
- II. “But Barnabas brought him to the apostles,” Acts 9:27.
- III. “So Saul stayed with them,” Acts 9:28.
- IV. Believe in people!
  - A. See people through God’s eyes.
    - 1. “My special creation,” Genesis 1:26-27; 2:7 & 22; Psalms 8:3-9.
    - 2. God’s ongoing creative work, Acts 9:15; Psalms 139:13&16; Jeremiah 1:4-5 & 27:6.
    - 3. Jesus’ different view of people, Luke 19:6-7.
  - B. Have faith in people’s Creator.
    - 1. Paul’s confidence in the Creator produced confidence in people, 1 Corinthians 1:8; 2 Corinthians 1:7 & 21; Philippians 1:6; 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24; 2 Thessalonians 3:3.
    - 2. Attention on people brings discouragement; attention on God brings hope.
    - 3. When people don’t deserve confidence, pray—turn attention to Creator, Luke 22:31-32; Romans 1:9-10; Philippians 1:4; Colossians 1:9; 2 Thessalonians 1:11.
  - C. Be like their Creator – patiently expect the best from people.
    - 1. Jesus speaks His faith in Peter, Luke 22:32.
    - 2. Jesus’ persistent patience, John 21:19.
- V. Gigantic benefit of believing in people, Acts 11:25-26.