



**Series:** Unsung Heroes

**Sermon:** Part 2: Faithful and Available To The Core: Ananias

**Date:** Sunday, July 14th, 2024

*Scriptures referenced in sermon message: Acts 9:1-19*

Faithfulness means: I can trust you. You will be there. You are reliable (when you say you will do something, you will do it and you will do it well.)

### **Ananias:**

#### **1. Was a faithful, trustworthy, and \_\_\_\_\_ disciple of Jesus**

How available we are for God and how we daily respond to the promptings of God really reveals whether God is a priority in our lives or not.

*The Lord told him [Ananias], “Go to the house of Judas on Straight Street and ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul, for he is praying. In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias come and place his hands on him to restore his sight.” (Acts 9:11-12)*

If God calls you to do something, He will equip you.

#### **God Told Ananias:**

- a. A specific address: that Ananias was to go to called Straight Street
- b. A specific house: that belonged to a man named Judas
- c. A specific man: that when Ananias got to this house, he was to look for a man from Tarsus called Saul
- d. A specific thing to look for when he arrived: that this man, Saul, would be found praying
- e. A specific vision: that this man Saul would himself have a vision and see a man named Ananias come for him
- f. A specific action: that Ananias was to place his hands on Saul in order to restore his vision

#### **2. Needed to get over his \_\_\_\_\_**

*“Lord,” Ananias answered, “I have heard many reports about this man and all the harm he has done to Your Holy people in Jerusalem. And he has come here with authority from the chief priests to arrest all who call on Your Name.” “Go! This man is my chosen instrument to proclaim My Name to the Gentiles and their kings and to the people of Israel. I will show him how much he must suffer for My Name.” (Acts 9:13-16)*

What do you do when God tells you to do something and it doesn't make sense to you? What do you do when God tells you to do something that scares you or pushes you out of your comfort zone?

#### **3. Despite his feelings, Ananias \_\_\_\_\_ God, even in the unknowns and uncertainty**



*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. Saul spent several days with the disciples in Damascus. (Acts 9:17-19)*

*Even though I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent man, I was shown mercy because I acted in ignorance and unbelief. The grace of our Lord was poured out on me abundantly, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners - of whom I am the worst. But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his immense patience as an example for those who would believe in Him and receive eternal life. (1 Timothy 1:13-16)*

God forgave Paul and used Paul for the purposes of changing lives for God and building His Kingdom throughout the Earth.

As disciples, we each have a \_\_\_\_\_ to bring the hope and love of God to those around us just like Ananias did to Paul.

**4. Had a reputation as one who loved \_\_\_\_\_**

*“A man named Ananias came to see me. He was a devout observer of the law and highly respected by all the Jews living there. He stood beside me and said, ‘Brother Saul, receive your sight!’ And at that very moment I was able to see him.” (Acts 22:12-13)*

**Bottom Line:** *As disciples, we each have a responsibility to bring the hope and love of God to those around us just like Ananias did to Paul.*

**Questions to reflect on this week or with others:**

- 1. If God were to ask you to do something, would you be able to say that you are faithful, trustworthy, and available to carry out what He has asked?*
- 2. What are some of the fears that stand in your way of being fully obedient to what God has asked you to do?*
- 3. How may you trust God with these unknowns and uncertainties despite the way that you are feeling?*
- 4. How do the people around you view you? Are you someone who has the reputation of loving Jesus or someone who has a reputation of loving something else?*

*Songs used in service: The Lord’s Prayer (Hillsong), Alabaré Al Señor (Hillsong), Available (Elevation Worship), Goodness of God (Rhett Walker)*

-----Tear Here -----

**Any prayer requests?**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**What can we be praying for you about?**