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"THE ROAD TO DAMASCUS: THREE LIFE REALITIES"

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TEXT: Acts 9:1-21 ESV

LIFE REALITY 1: God communicates with us!

God's communication:

- 1) It's consistent and steady and never contradicts His word.
- 2) It may convict, but it does not cruelly threaten.
- 3) It propels us to take action.

LIFE REALITY 2: We can lie to ourselves!

Who was Saul of the road to Damascus?

- 1) Religious
- 2) Pharisee - status, hyper-religious
- 3) Keeper of the Law
- 4) Kept all religious ceremonies
- 5) Champion of God...or so he thought

TRUTH: 1 Cor. 2:14 - *The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned.*

Four things that are true of a believer:

- 1) You were drawn by the Holy Spirit (John 6:44).
- 2) You hear God's voice (John 10:27, Rom. 8:14).
- 3) You are used by God, and if used by God, you are empowered by the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:8).
- 4) It will change what you do or won't do.

TRUTH: A number of those attending church every Sunday have never accepted Christ.

- 1) Not talking about a profession of faith
- 2) Not talking about baptism
- 3) Not talking about serving in the church
- 4) Not talking about attending church

TRUTH: It's part of our nature to want to feel like we have something to do with us getting into heaven.

LIFE REALITY 3: There is no such thing as "NO HOPE"!

Joel 2:25 - *I will restore to you the years that the swarming locust has eaten, the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter, my great army, which I sent among you.*

Saul was an enemy of God, and God used him to write the majority of the New Testament and reach the Gentiles.

