JESUS CONTINUED

BY THE SPIRIT, THROUGH THE CHURCH, IN THE WORLD

One Man, Two Cities, Three Things Acts 9:19b-31 (p. 917)

His Presence among Christ's <u>d i s c i p l e s</u>

"...not <u>n e g l e c t i n g</u> to meet together, as is the habit of some..."

His Proclamation of Christ's <u>n a m e</u>

"Saul had a new relationship to the churchand a new responsibility to the world."

His Persecution for Christ's sake

"Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be <u>persecuted</u>."

Update on the State of the Church

During this time of relative peace, the church was characterized by $\underline{f e a r}$ and $\underline{comfort}$, and due to this it was growing stronger and larger.

Sermon Study Guide

(Reminder: The purpose of the questions is to explore the text and themes of the sermon. **Do not feel a need to go through all of the questions, but try to discuss/study some in each category.** The goal is to stimulate discussion/reflection and transformation related to the sermon text and themes.)

1. What evidences of grace have you seen since we last met?

2. Talk about the three things we see about Saul in Damascus and Jerusalem. Why are these important for us? Read these texts and discuss how they relate to these things. (Hebrews 10:24-25; Acts 1:8; 2 Tim. 3:12)

3. What two words in Acts 9:31 appear to be incompatible? Read Acts 2:42-47 and notice "awe" (fear) and "glad". How does the gospel create opposite emotions and experiences?

- 4. What stuck out to you from the sermon Sunday?
- 5. What themes do you find helpful or interesting?
- 6. What sin did the Holy Spirit convict you of in this sermon?
- 7. How were you encouraged by this passage?

8. How does this passage connect to or inform our understanding of the gospel?