

Read Acts 9:26-31

**26** When Saul arrived in Jerusalem, he tried to meet with the believers, but they were all afraid of him. They did not believe he had truly become a believer!

**27** Then Barnabas brought him to the apostles and told them how Saul had seen the Lord on the way to Damascus and how the Lord had spoken to Saul. He also told them that Saul had preached boldly in the name of Jesus in Damascus.

**28** So Saul stayed with the apostles and went all around Jerusalem with them, preaching boldly in the name of the Lord.

**29** He debated with some Greek-speaking Jews, but they tried to murder him.

**30** When the believers heard about this, they took him down to Caesarea and sent him away to Tarsus, his hometown.

**31** The church then had peace throughout Judea, Galilee, and Samaria, and it became stronger as the believers lived in the fear of the Lord. And with the encouragement of the Holy Spirit, it also grew in numbers.

**When Saul left Damascus and arrived in Jerusalem, what did the believers there think about him (v. 26)?** They were afraid of Saul. They remembered how he hated Christians and put many of them in jail. They didn't believe that Saul had changed.

**What did Barnabbas, one of the believers, do (v. 27)?** He introduced Saul to the apostles and told them what had happened on the road to Damascus where Jesus had met Saul. And he told the apostles that Saul was a changed man and had been preaching boldly about Jesus in Damascus. Barnabbas was a peacemaker.

**What did Saul do then (v. 28)?** He stayed in Jerusalem with the apostles and preached boldly about Jesus all over Jerusalem.

**What happened with the Greek-speaking Jews (v. 29)?** He debated or argued with them about Jesus. Then they decided to kill him. Saul probably won all the arguments about Jesus.

**How did the believers react (v. 30)?** When they heard about Greek-speaking Jews' plan, they sent Saul away to his hometown of Tarsus.

**What was happening to the church in many cities after Saul left (v. 31)?** There was peace in the church, and it became stronger as many more people became Christians. The church was growing.