

BORN AGAIN

ACTS 13:9

How did you see God working in your life this week? (Romans 1:11, 12)

BACKGROUND: Christ had radically changed Paul; and he gave up his Jewish name for a Gentile name, Paul, which means little and indicates a profession of humility. Alexander Maclaren, Acts 13-28, p.15.

PAUL HAD A NEW LIFE. "... the central heart of Christianity is the possession of a new life, communicated to us through faith.... Wheresoever there is a true faith, there is a new nature." Alexander Maclaren, Acts 13-28, p.9. (**II Corinthians 5:17, fn 5:17, Ezekiel 36:24-27, fn 36:25-27, John 3:3-8, fn 3:3, John 14:17-20, fn 14:18, Ephesians 1:13, 14, fn 1:13, 14**) *How does your new life assure you that you belong to Christ?*

PAUL HAD A NEW IDENTITY. Paul now saw his life before Christ as dead and gone. His new identity was Christ and Christ alone. (**Psalms 103:12, fn 103:12, Isaiah 43:25, fn 43:25, Ephesians 2:1-7, fn 2:4, 5, Colossians 3:1-3, fn 3:3, Romans 8:12-17, fn 8:14-7, I John 3:1-3, fn 3:1ff**) *Why is humility vital in sharing your faith?*

PAUL HAD A NEW STRENGTH. Before knowing Christ, Paul's strength was in his own abilities or flesh. In Christ, Paul's strength was in God's life in him. (**Ephesians 1:18-20, fn 1:19, 20, Philippians 3:1-10, fn 3:10, Philippians 4:11-13, fn 4:13, I Timothy 1:12-16, fn 1:15, II Corinthians 12:7-10, fn 12:10**) *How does the Holy Spirit help you to live your (His) life?*

Pray for one another's needs.

Who in your group needs your encouragement by phone or personal attention?