OUR BEGINNING

The beginning of our lives as Christ followers should share some common characteristics.

1. ***A Season of Learning***

(19-20) And after taking some food, he regained his strength. Saul was with the disciples in Damascus for some days, Immediately he began proclaiming Jesus in the synagogues: "He is the Son of God." (22) But Saul grew more capable, and kept confounding the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that this One is the Messiah.

A. Paul worked his trade
B. Paul watched his friends
C. Paul witnessed his Lord.

(*20) Immediately he began proclaiming Jesus in the synagogues: "He is the Son of God."*

(22) But Saul grew more capable, and kept confounding the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that this One is the Messiah.

2. ***A Season of Hurting***

(21) But all who heard him were astounded and said, "Isn't this the man who, in Jerusalem, was destroying those who called on this name, and then came here for the purpose of taking them as prisoners to the chief priests?"

A. Folks were offended by "who he was".

(23-25) After many days had passed, the Jews conspired to kill him, but their plot became known to Saul. So they were watching the gates day and night intending to kill him, but his disciples took him by night and lowered him in a large basket through an opening in the wall.

B. Folks were offended by "what he said".

3. ***A Season of Belonging***

(27-30) Barnabas, however, took him and brought him to the apostles and explained to them how, on the road, Saul had seen the Lord, and that He had talked to him, and how in Damascus he had spoken boldly in the name of Jesus. Saul was coming and going with them in Jerusalem, speaking boldly in the name of the Lord. He conversed and debated with the Hellenistic Jews, but they attempted to kill him. When the brothers found out, they took him down to Caesarea and sent him off to Tarsus.

A. Bond of brotherhood that instantly forms between Spirit possessed followers of Christ.
B. We all belong to the same big family – the Family of God.