

Peace for the Journey ... April 23, 2010

Scripture Reading: Acts 9:1-20

God changes lives. Even ours. Even today.

Do you (really) believe that?

When, on Easter Day, we discover that Jesus is alive it means that Jesus is free to appear in our lives. The resurrected Jesus is not limited in space and time to first century Palestine: the resurrected Jesus is free to continue changing the lives of people like Saul and Ananias -- and you and me.

Like Saul, we may be headed in the wrong direction when Jesus comes along and knocks us to the ground and changes our life direction. Or like Ananias we may be a faithful disciple, doing our best to serve God when Jesus comes along and asks us to do something we don't want to do -- something we would never do on our own.

While Saul's conversion gets the most attention, Ananias also experiences a conversion. His encounter with Jesus results in a crisis of faith: does he really believe that God changes lives? Could it really be true that God could (or would) change Saul's life. Could (or would) God really turn an enemy into a friend?

In a sense, Ananias had to decide if he really believed that Easter made any difference at all, that God really changes lives. God changed *both* Saul's and Ananias' life when they accepted that God is God ... and they're not.

Do believe that Jesus Christ is alive and at work in your life? Do you believe that God changes lives?

Let God be God in your life today. Let God change your life.