



# lyona bible church

## LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS – APRIL 4, 2010

### Announcements – Please read these to your group!

Please check your bulletin and the website ([www.lyona.org](http://www.lyona.org)) each week for additional information.

- **THEOS/Life Group Leader Meeting:** We will be holding a meeting tentatively on Sunday, April 25 from Noon-1pm in B6. More information to following via e-mail.
- **THEOS:** A new semester started Sunday, March 14 beginning at 9am.
- **Sportsman's Banquet:** This year's expo and banquet will be held on Saturday, April 24 starting at 4pm.

### Losing Your Religion: Introduction, Part 1 (Acts 26:9-18, 28)

#### Questions

1. What was the most interesting idea or principle about this Sunday's message?
2. When was the last time that you used God to get your own way? How did it play out? Does bartering with God work?
3. Have you abused religion to some extent?
4. Why are people not committed to religion (icons, traditions, rituals, attending services, etc.)?
5. What do people really want from religion? What is the problem with looking for God in religion?
6. Have someone read Acts 26:9-18. When Paul talks about "kicking against the goads" (v. 14), he is using a proverb to explain that there was nothing he could do to resist God's will. Was that true for you when you lost your religion to be in a relationship with Christ? Furthermore, what was Paul's message to the Gentiles (v. 18)?
7. Have someone read Acts 26:28. Why did Agrippa put Paul off on making a decision for Christ?
8. Do you, after hearing the sermon this Sunday, need to confess anything or repent of anything? What in your life needs to change?

### Prayer Requests

A place to write out your groups' prayer requests

## SERMON NOTES

Each header with sub-points is a slide used in Sunday morning's PowerPoint presentation.

**Text:** Acts 26:9-18, 28

**Speaker:** Michael Fraser

**Message:** Losing Your Religion: Introduction, Part 1

**All of us have tried to use God, or the power of God, or our understanding of God to get our own way.**

- We have all tried to leverage God for our own ends!
- We have all abused religion to some extent.
- The bottom line is that people are not committed to a religion (icons, traditions, rituals...)
- What we really want is assurance about God.

**We want to know there is a purpose to life and religion is the means to that end.**

- The problem is that we have looked for God in all of the wrong places, people, circumstances, and systems; all of which do not meet the promises made.
- Then we walk away and lose our faith and assurance of God...
- **We lose our religion!**
- But that should not be looked at as a bad thing...

**When Paul lost his religion!**

- Paul before King Agrippa **Acts 26:9-18**
  - At the epicenter of enduring faith is the idea that we need forgiveness of sin!
- Most religious systems are designed to control you...
  - God's message through Paul is that God wants to restore you!
- Religion is about the pursuit of Truth...
- Following Christ is about knowing Truth!
- Agrippa said to Paul, "**In such a short time are you persuading me to become a Christian?**" (Acts 26:28)
  - Too many put off the decision to lose their religion and find the Truth!