# Acts 9 Study Notes

### Introduction

1. Discuss the motivations of religious terrorists like Yigal Amir, the assassin of Yitzhak Rabin. What do they all have in common?

### Worship

1. A couple of people should share their journey to faith.
2. Then read and reflect on Ezekiel’s vision of God’s throne chariot (Ezekiel 1).

### Study

1. Discuss Paul’s motivations for travelling to Damascus. What does he say about it in the Acts 9, 22, and 26 versions of the story?
2. What can we learn about zeal from Phinehas and Numbers 25?
3. Why would Paul have thought that the early Jesus followers were idolators?
4. How did Paul react to the blinding light? How did he know the figure was divine? Does Ezekiel 1 help us to understand?
5. Discuss the implications of the blinding light for Paul and his Jewish identity and convictions.
6. How did Paul put it all together? Compare Deuteronomy 6:8 and 1 Corinthians 8:6. Reflect on Galatians 3:13-14.
7. Discuss the heavenly voice’s use of the first person. What is implied? And what does that mean for us as individuals and the church community?
8. What is the link between Paul’s Temple and Body of Christ images?
9. Compare and contrast the result of Paul’s violent zeal with Ananias’s faith in Jesus.
10. What did Paul say the role of Old Testament Law was for Christians? What is its role for us and our church?
11. What obligations do we put on new believers?

### Prayer

1. Pray for the church (global and local) to be effective in healing the principal divisions of the world (Jew and Palestinian, rich and poor, men and women etc.)