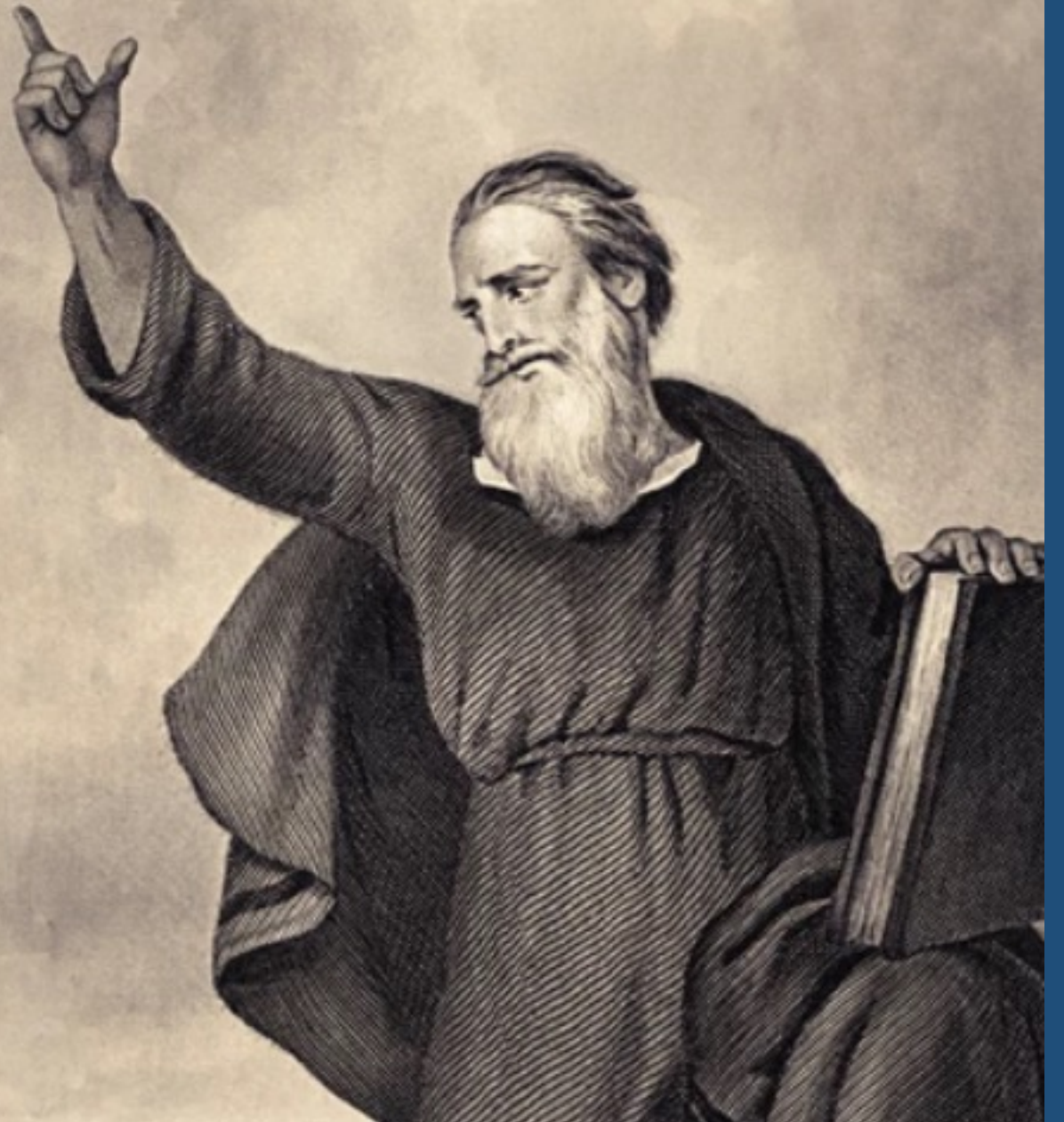


# Radical Hospitality: The Conversion of Saul

Acts 2:42-47

# Saul

## of Tarsus



But Saul, still **breathing** threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. - Acts 9:1-2

But Saul was ravaging the church, and entering house after house, he dragged off men and women and committed them to prison. - Acts 8:3

But Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any **belonging to the Way**, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. - Acts 9:1-2

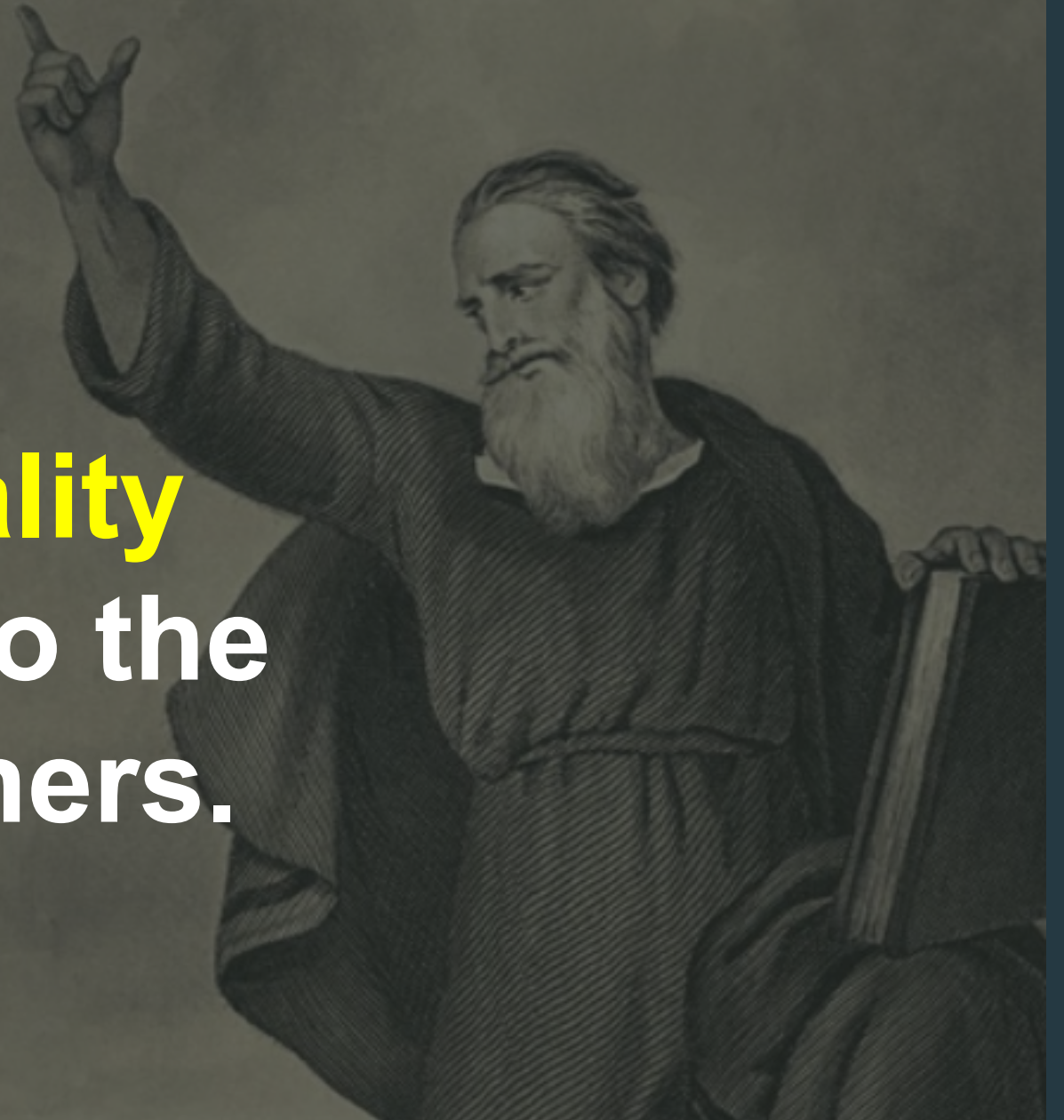
Now as he went on his way, he  
approached Damascus, and suddenly  
a light from heaven shone around him.

- Acts 9:3

At **midday**, O king, I saw on the way a light from heaven, **brighter than the sun**, that shone around me and those who journeyed with me. - Acts 26:13



This was the  
**Radical Hospitality**  
of God shown to the  
worst of all sinners.





Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst ...so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his immense patience as an example for those who would believe in him and receive eternal life. - 1 Tim 1:15-16

And falling to the ground, he heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?" - Acts 9:4

And he said, "Who are you, Lord?" And he said, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting." - Acts 9:5

And for three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

- Acts 9:9

Before we can pray  
“Lord your kingdom come”  
we must be willing to pray,  
“My kingdom go”

- Alan Redpath

Now there was a disciple at Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." And he said, "Here I am, Lord." - Acts 9:10

And the Lord said to him, "Rise and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul, for behold, he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." - Acts 9:11-12



But Ananias answered, “Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints at Jerusalem. And here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on your name.”  
- Acts 9:13-14

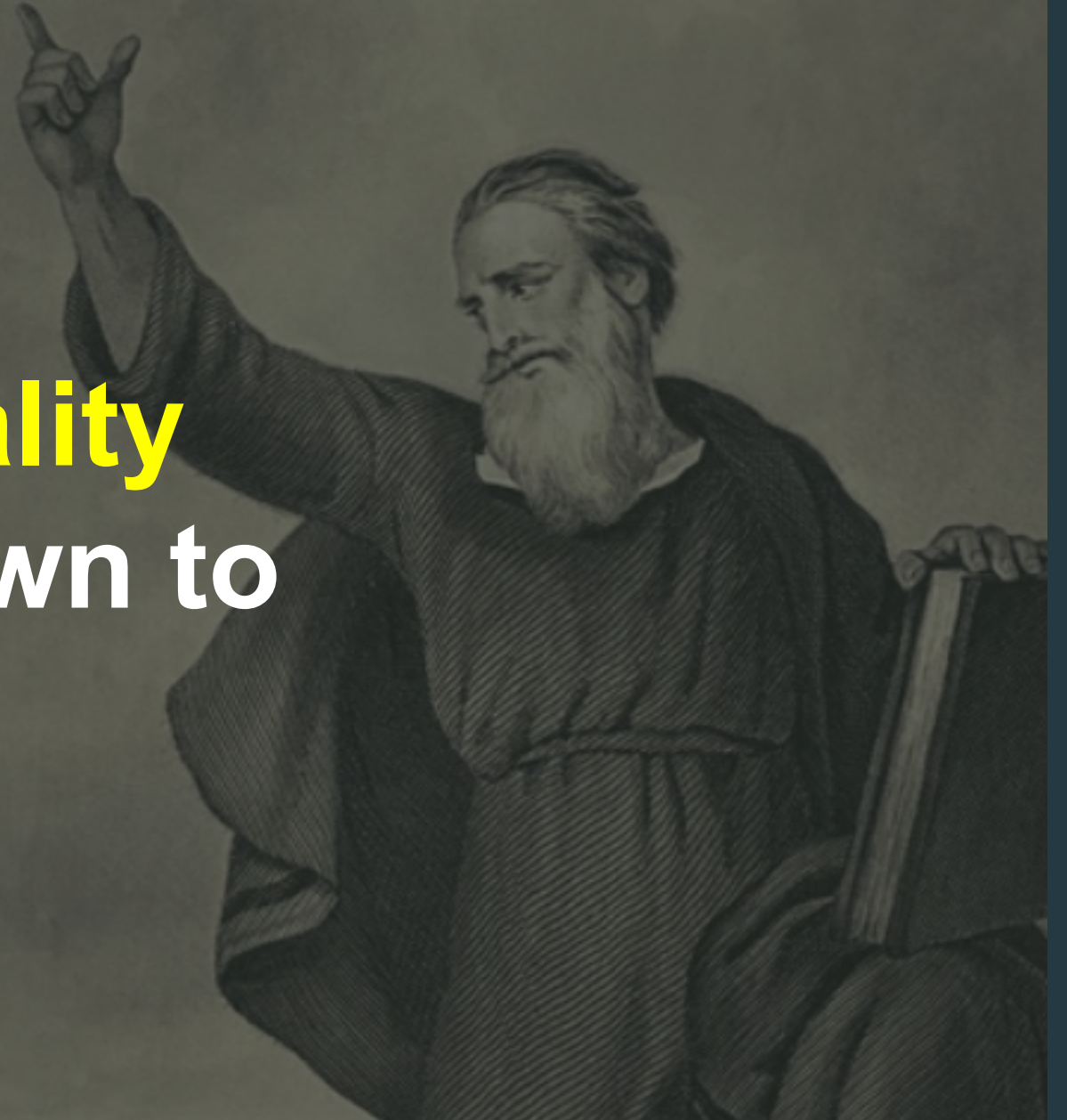
So Ananias departed and entered the house. And **laying his hands on him** he said, “**Brother Saul**, the Lord Jesus who appeared to you on the road by which you came has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.”

- Acts 9:17

But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel. For I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.” - Acts 9:15-16

I never fail to be moved by these words. They may well have been the first words which Saul heard from Christian lips after his conversion, and they were words of fraternal welcome. They must have been music to his ears. What? Was the arch-enemy of the church to be welcomed as a brother? Was the dreaded fanatic to be received as a member of the family? Yes, it was so. - John Stott

This was the  
**Radical Hospitality**  
of Ananias shown to  
the worst of all  
sinners.

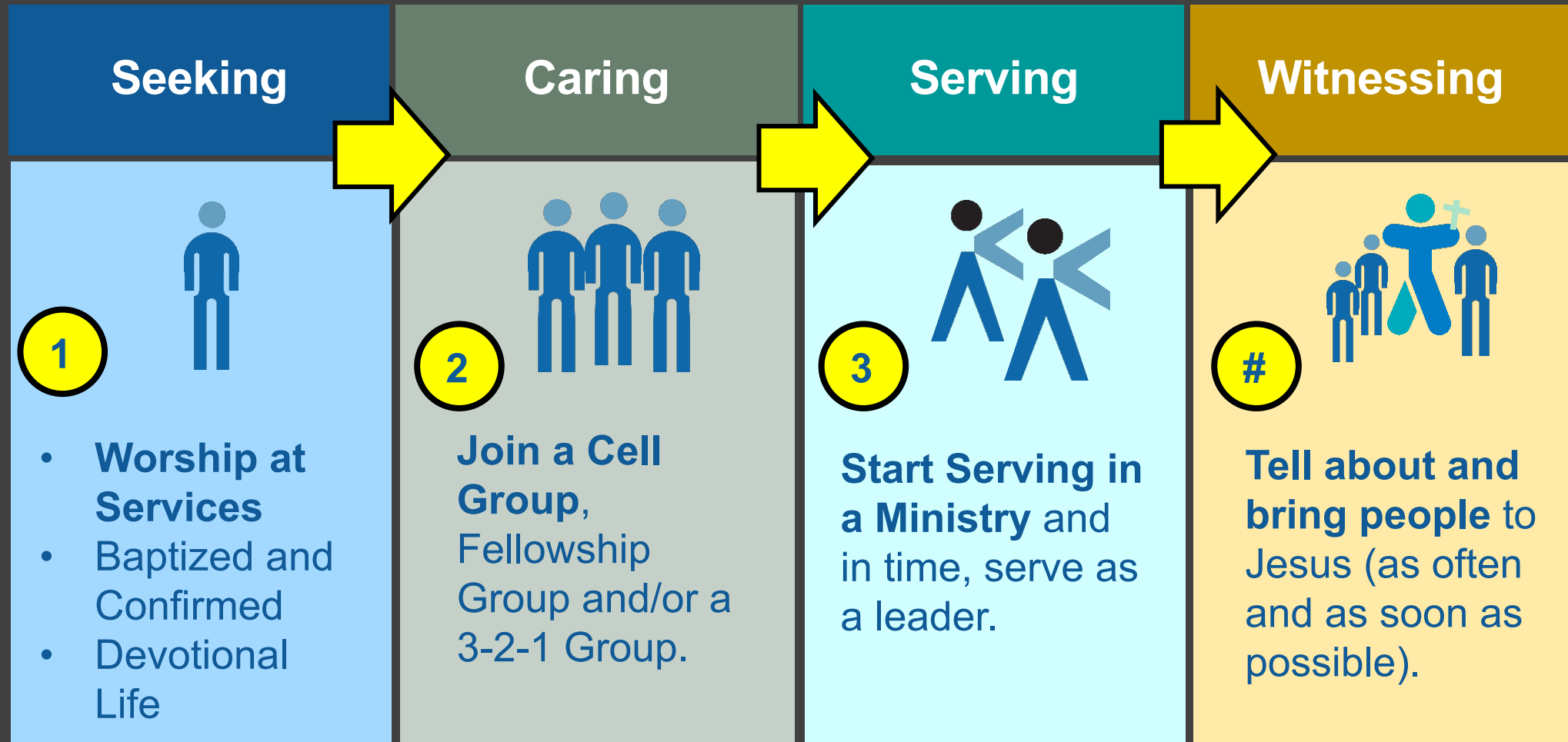


And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he rose and was baptized; and taking food, he was strengthened. - Acts 9:18-19a

For some days he was with the disciples at Damascus. And immediately he proclaimed Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God." - Acts 9:19b-20



# Our Discipleship Process



**The Radical Hospitality  
of both God and people  
brought about Saul's  
Conversion.**

