

ANANIAS: MAN **OF** THE HOUR & **FOR** THE HOUR! ACTS 9:10-25

Maybe we all have these people in our lives. People who played a role in our life, maybe even a key role, **but not** a continuing role....

...this man helped me & changed me → a man of the hour & for the hour!

1. Ananias was **available**!

Acts 9:10 And there was a certain disciple at Damascus, named Ananias; and **to him said the Lord in a vision, Ananias**. And he said, **Behold, I am here, Lord**.

It all starts here OR it doesn't start at all!

Genesis 22:1 And it came to pass after these things, that God did tempt Abraham, and said unto him, Abraham: and he said, **Behold, here I am**.

Genesis 31:11 And the angel of God spake unto me in a dream, saying, Jacob: **And I said, Here am I**.

Exodus 3:4 And when the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called unto him out of the midst of the bush, and said, Moses, Moses. **And he said, Here am I**.

1 Samuel 3:4 That the LORD called Samuel: **and he answered, Here am I**.

1 Samuel 3:8 **And the LORD called Samuel again the third time**. And he arose and went to Eli, **and said, Here am I**; for thou didst call me. And Eli perceived that the LORD had called the child. 1 Samuel 3:9 Therefore Eli said unto Samuel, Go, lie down: and it shall be, if he call thee, that thou shalt say, **Speak, LORD; for thy servant heareth**. So Samuel went and lay down in his place. 1 Samuel 3:10 And the LORD came, and stood, and called as at other times, Samuel, Samuel. **Then Samuel answered, Speak; for thy servant heareth**.

Isaiah 6:8 Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? **Then said I, Here am I; send me**.

Example: I need something done...anything...NOT something difficult.

What do I think?

Who is available?

- Without a long rambling reason why they can't do it
- Without an argument
- Starting with a yes or, at least, a maybe

2. Ananias was **also skeptical**!

Acts 9:11 And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the street which is called Straight, and inquire in the house of Judas for one called Saul, of Tarsus: for, behold, he prayeth, Acts 9:12 And hath seen in a vision a man named Ananias coming in, and putting his hand on him, that he might receive his sight. Acts 9:13 **Then Ananias answered, Lord, I have heard by many of this man, how much evil he hath done to thy saints at Jerusalem: Acts 9:14 And here he hath authority from the chief priests to bind all that call on thy name.**

The Product Adoption Curve



I've seen **many** models of this and adaptations of this to ministry. I only know and use this for the extremes:

I don't trust the first group

I don't bother with the last group

Skepticism:

Isn't all bad

Wants as much information as possible → NOT all the information

Doesn't want to rush in blindly

Will move forward

3. Ananias was quite reasonable!

Acts 9:15 But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel: Acts 9:16 For I will shew him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake.

James 1:18 Of his own will begat he us with **the word of truth**, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures. James 1:19 **Wherefore**, my beloved brethren, **let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath:** James 1:20 For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God.

James 3:17 But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, **then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated**, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.

1 Samuel 25:17 Now therefore know and consider what thou wilt do; **for evil is determined against our master, and against all his household: for he is such a son of Belial, that a man cannot speak to him.**

Romans 12:10 Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; **in honour preferring one another;**

Romans 12:16 Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. **Be not wise in your own conceits.**

<u>What I know about myself:</u>	
➤ I've never been perfect	➤ I can be strong-headed / a bull-head
➤ Emotional? More than PK	➤ But open to truth / ideas / information
➤ Capable of reason	➤ Able to slow down
	➤ Persuadable

4. Ananias was certainly amendable / amenable!

Acts 9:17 And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost. Acts 9:18 And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized. Acts 9:19 And when he had received meat, he was strengthened. Then was Saul certain days with the disciples which were at Damascus. Acts 9:20 And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God. Acts 9:21 But all that heard him were amazed, and said; Is not this he that destroyed them which called on this name in Jerusalem, and came hither for that intent, that he might bring them bound unto the chief priests?

Amendable: capable of being changed, corrected, improved

5. Ananias was ultimately commendable!

Acts 22:10 And I said, What shall I do, Lord? And the Lord said unto me, **Arise, and go into Damascus; and there it shall be told thee of all things which are appointed for thee to do.** Acts 22:11 And when I could not see for the glory of that light, being led by the hand of them that were with me, I came into Damascus. Acts 22:12 **And one Ananias, a devout man according to the law, having a good report of all the Jews which dwelt there,** Acts 22:13 Came unto me, and stood, and said unto me, Brother Saul, receive thy sight. And the same hour I looked up upon him. Acts 22:14 And he said, The God of our fathers hath chosen thee, that thou shouldest know his will, and see that Just One, and shouldest hear the voice of his mouth. Acts 22:15 For thou shalt be his witness unto all men of what thou hast seen and heard. Acts 22:16 And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.