

Title: One Day Ill Be Ready – Galatians 1 13-24

Read:

¹³⁻¹⁶I'm sure that you've heard the story of my earlier life when I lived in the Jewish way. In those days I went all out in persecuting God's church. I was systematically destroying it. I was so enthusiastic about the traditions of my ancestors that I advanced head and shoulders above my peers in my career. Even then God had designs on me. Why, when I was still in my mother's womb he chose and called me out of sheer generosity! Now he has intervened and revealed his Son to me so that I might joyfully tell non-Jews about him. ¹⁶⁻²⁰Immediately after my calling—without consulting anyone around me and without going up to Jerusalem to confer with those who were apostles long before I was—I got away to Arabia. Later I returned to Damascus, but it was three years before I went up to Jerusalem to compare stories with Peter. I was there only fifteen days—but what days they were! Except for our Master's brother James, I saw no other apostles. (I'm telling you the absolute truth in this.) ²¹⁻²⁴Then I began my ministry in the regions of Syria and Cilicia. After all that time and activity I was still unknown by face among the Christian churches in Judea. There was only this report: "That man who once persecuted us is now preaching the very message he used to try to destroy." Their response was to recognize and worship God because of me!

Think:

When are you going to tell your mates about Jesus? When are you going to invite that guy at college to your next youth meeting? Here is what some of the adults do. They read all they can read about Jesus so that if they get asked any questions they will know the answers. They wait to invite their friends to Church until they have got it all together. They say things like one day when I know it all I will tell my friends about Jesus. The problem is that the one day they are waiting for will never come. The problem is that they are focussing on what they know rather than focussing on Jesus. Now I know that we would never miss the point like that, would we? After all, Paul is telling us in this passage that he got straight on with the job of befriending people and letting them know about Jesus before he knew anything. Now if a guy who used to Murder Christians one day, could turn around and tell people about Jesus the next day, then maybe we can too. Maybe if we get on with the job of telling people about Jesus then maybe, just maybe the adults will catch on too.

Pray:

Father thank you for giving me the ability to tell people about Jesus. Help me do it with all the enthusiasm I have. Amen.

Action:

Hmmm now what could you possibly do to put today's passage into action? I think you know, don't you. Bye for now.