

The People Share

Acts 8:4 Those who had been scattered preached the word wherever they went. 5 Philip went down to a city in Samaria and proclaimed the Christ there. 6 When the crowds heard Philip and saw the miraculous signs he did, they all paid close attention to what he said. 7 With shrieks, evil spirits came out of many, and many paralytics and cripples were healed. 8 So there was great joy in that city. 9 Now for some time a man named Simon had practiced sorcery in the city and amazed all the people of Samaria. He boasted that he was someone great, 10 and all the people, both high and low, gave him their attention and exclaimed, “This man is the divine power known as the Great Power.” 11 They followed him because he had amazed them for a long time with his magic. 12 But when they believed Philip as he preached the good news of the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women. 13 Simon himself believed and was baptized. And he followed Philip everywhere, astonished by the great signs and miracles he saw. 14 When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. 15 When they arrived, they prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit, 16 because the Holy Spirit had not yet come upon any of them; they had simply been baptized into the name of the Lord Jesus. 17 Then Peter and John placed their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Lessons We Will Learn in this Series:

1. These chapters are all about the _____ of a church and it shows that for a church to be effective, everyone must be _____.
2. The effectiveness of a church is not _____ by a lack of problems but by how problems are _____.

The Scattered

Remember? All _____ the Apostles were scattered.
Acts 8:1 . . . On that day a great persecution broke out against the church at Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were scattered throughout Judea and Samaria.

These lay people _____ the Word _____!

What do you remember about Samaria?

John 4:4 Now he had to go through Samaria. . . . 7 When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, “Will you give me a drink?”

Philip

He was one of those _____ to care for the _____.
He proclaimed _____ and did miracles to _____ his message.
His ministry created _____.

Simon

Simon, a sorcerer, had been _____ people _____ this time.
His stage-name was “The _____.”
He wanted _____ and _____.

God’s power will _____ the “power” of magic.
Acts 8:12 But when they believed Philip as he preached the good news of the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.

Even a _____ knows when he _____ the power of God.
Acts 8:13 Simon himself believed and was baptized. And he followed Philip everywhere, astonished by the great signs and miracles he saw.

The Apostles and the Spirit

Peter and John were sent to _____ the work in Samaria.

John was learning a _____ about _____.
Luke 9:52 And he sent messengers on ahead, who went into a Samaritan village to get things ready for him; 53 but the people there did not welcome him, because he was heading for Jerusalem. 54 When the disciples James and John saw this, they asked, “Lord, do you want us to call fire down from heaven to destroy them?”

One of the lessons in Acts is that God _____ change _____! (Jews, priests, a sorcerer, Saul, etc.)

The Apostles had to place hands on them to _____ the Holy Spirit. This was _____ for every new _____ that became believers.

Receiving the Holy Spirit: (The “echoes” of Pentecost)

Where?	Who?
Acts 2 – Pentecost	The _____
Acts 8 – Samaria	The _____ - _____
Acts 10 – Caesarea	The Gentiles _____
Acts 19 – Ephesus	Gentiles _____ of Israel

Lessons We Learn:

1. It was the _____ people who did the witnessing and _____.
The Apostles were only there to _____ their ministry.
2. The “scattered” saw their problem as an _____ to _____ their faith. Do you see problems that way?
3. The most important thing I learned today was . . .