

Acts of the Apostles: *The Gospel to Samaria*

Week of March 23, 2025

Acts 8:1-25

1. The Gospel Bridges What the World Divides
2. The Gospel breaks chains that bind the unbeliever. (v9-17)
3. The Gospel becomes the focal point of every believer's life. (v18-25)

Read Acts 8:1-8

What role does persecution play in the spread of the Gospel?

Why do you think the apostles stayed in Jerusalem while other believers scattered?

Why was Philip going to Samaria so surprising?

What role do signs and miracles play in Philip's ministry and how do they contribute to the affirmation of his message?

Read Acts 8:9-17

What similarities do we see between Simon and Philip?
What are the differences?

Why didn't these believers in Samaria receive the Holy Spirit when they believed or were baptized? Why did the apostles need to be present?

Read Acts 8:18-25

What did Simon misunderstand about the nature of God?

Based on the behavior of the church in Acts up to this point, how would you describe the gospel's role in the day-to-day lives of the average believer?

For Further Consideration and Application:

How can you build relational bridges with the Gospel where there are natural divisions?

What 'chains' can we pray to be broken in your life and those around you?

How does the Gospel saturate every part of our lives, rather than the box of Sundays and Wednesday evenings?

Prayer Prompt:

Pray for opportunities for the Gospel to open doors, break down walls, and build bridges between different people. Pray that the truth of the Gospel would break the chains of sin, shame, addiction, fear, and apathy. Pray that you would grow in your understanding of how the Gospel speaks to every aspect of our lives.