

Message Study Guide

(Scriptures & quotes from this week's message are available on thorncreek.church/live)

Warming up

1. As a child, what events did you look forward to? (i.e. Christmas, camping, family gatherings, school, playing with friends, etc)

Digging Deeper & Application

Take your time reading the scripture given. If possible look up the verses in different versions and pause at each verse and discuss it.

2. Please read Acts 8:4-8. What is Samaria and why would God care about Samaria?
3. What was the result and evidence of the gospel being preached?
4. Pastor Ruben said, "The greatest joy you will have is when your soul is set free." What are your thoughts about this quote?
5. Please read Acts 8:9-11 and compare with Leviticus 20:6. Who was Simon, and what was he claiming? Have you ever known someone who constantly brought attention to themselves?
 - a. Compare with this quote from Jim Cymbala with Proverbs 27:2., "When people are used by the enemy, they boast about being someone great. When God uses you never boast about being great."
6. Please read Acts 8:12-13. What is baptism to you? What does this story say about Simon?
7. What happened in Acts 8:14-17?
 - a. It's possible to know Jesus Christ, but not know the power of the Holy Spirit. You need the Holy Spirit to fill you to make your holy. "It very well could be that the New

Testament concept of Christianity is much fuller than we're used to. People not only got saved. But they were filled with the Holy Spirit." - Jim Cymbala

8. Please read Acts 8:18-19. What was Simon's mistake?

9. Please read Acts 8:20-23. What did Peter say to Simon?
 - a. What did he say Simon was full of?

 - b. Compare with 1 Corinthians 3:1-3 and Galatians 5:24-26.

10. Wrap it up by reading Acts 8:24-25. What was Simon's prayer and what happened to the Good News?

Application

Below are some of the points shared in the message. Discuss how they apply to your life.

- God wants to transform the "you" behind the curtain.
- You can't put God in a box. God moves where He wants to move.
- Your greatest joy won't come from money, your greatest joy will be when your soul is set free
- "When people are used by the enemy, they boast about being someone great. When God uses you, you never boast about being great." - Jim Cymbala
- "It very well could be that the New Testament concept of Christianity is much fuller than we're used to. People not only got saved. But they were filled with the Holy Spirit." - Jim Cymbala