

Acts Chapter 8

The Samaritans are transformed by the Gospel (8:4-8)

- Lay led mission
- 8:4 preaching - in Greek εὐαγγελίζω - euangelizo - bring good news, evangelize
- Like Stephen, Philip is doing the things that Jesus and the apostles did.
- Make disciples who make disciples
 - “A Christian and also a congregation are plants that have grown from the seed sown by other Christians and congregations. Therefore, this congregation and every individual Christian is to be a seed from which new Christians and congregations can ever grow again.” // CFW Walther
- *And Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. // Matthew 9:35-38*

Magic versus the Gospel (8:9-13)

- **19** *Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have*

commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” // Mathew 28:19-20

- *I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. // Matthew 16:18*
- Similar to the 10 plagues of the Exodus where Aaron as God’s servant did battle against the Egyptian priests

Sent for the sake of the Gospel (8:14-17)

- Samaritan Pentecost
- The apostles were the trainees of Jesus - they were verifying the work of of this new mission
- **53** *But the people did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem. 54 And when his disciples James and John saw it, they said, “Lord, do you want us to tell fire to come down from heaven and consume them?” 55 But he turned and rebuked them // Luke 9:53-55*

A Gospel confrontation (8:18-25)

- The Holy Spirit is not for purchase
- The Holy Spirit is not given for our personal advantage but for the glory of God

Philip and the Ethiopian Eunuch (8:26-40)

- 8:39 carried - in Greek ἄρπάζω - harpazo - to snatch up or steal
- *And when they had come up to Mysia, they attempted to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus did not allow them. // Acts 16:7*
- *The Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. // Mark 1:12*