



Small Group Study Questions

Week 12

Acts 8:4-17 (NASB 1995)

4 Therefore, those who had been scattered went about preaching the word. **5** Philip went down to the city of Samaria and *began* proclaiming Christ to them. **6** The crowds with one accord were giving attention to what was said by Philip, as they heard and saw the signs which he was performing. **7** For *in the case of* many who had unclean spirits, they were coming out *of them* shouting with a loud voice; and many who had been paralyzed and lame were healed. **8** So there was much rejoicing in that city.

9 Now there was a man named Simon, who formerly was practicing magic in the city and astonishing the people of Samaria, claiming to be someone great; **10** and they all, from smallest to greatest, were giving attention to him, saying, "This man is what is called the Great Power of God." **11** And they were giving him attention because he had for a long time astonished them with his magic arts. **12** But when they believed Philip preaching the good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were being baptized, men and women alike. **13** Even Simon himself believed; and after being baptized, he continued on with Philip, and as he observed signs and great miracles taking place, he was constantly amazed.

14 Now when the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent them Peter and John, **15** who came down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit. **16** For He had not yet fallen upon any of them; they had simply been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. **17** Then they *began* laying their hands on them, and they were receiving the Holy Spirit.

QUICK REVIEW

Summarize one thing that Pastor Fred said in his sermon this past week that stands out to you.

DIGGING DEEPER

What is your definition of delayed gratification?

When was the last time you had a delayed gratification? Was it forced upon you or your choice?

Read Acts 8:4-8

What is specific about Philip's ministry that is attracting the crowds?

What is the purpose of the signs? (Hint: Read Hebrews 2:4)

What are some God-things that are happening right now that are you rejoicing over?

Read Acts 8:9-13

Have you ever thought that someone would never become a Christ-follower, but then they did? Don't name them, but describe why you thought that.

DIGGING DEEPER

Read Acts 8:14-17

What's significant that Peter and John are called in?

What difference does the Holy Spirit make in our lives?

Today, we receive the Holy Spirit at the moment of our new birth when we believe (Acts 10:44). We don't need this extra laying on of hands to receive the Spirit of God as this was a practice only needed in the early church at specific times for a specific purpose. So do you have the Holy Spirit because you believed? Have you followed in believers baptism in obedience to Jesus' command (Matthew 28:19)?

TAKING IT HOME

Which point from this weekend's message or small group study is most important for you to remember?

PRAYER REQUEST

