

Discussion Questions
February 15, 2026 | Acts 8:1-8
Persecution, Proclamation and Power in Collision

UPWARDS – Growing in Our Relationship with God

1. Persecution caused the church to be scattered throughout the region of Judea and Samaria (Acts 8:1). How does persecution or adversity advance God's kingdom rather than hinder it?
2. What do you think this passage conveys about God's sovereignty when persecution "prevails," and how does it challenge our views about persecution in the church?
3. How does believing in God's grace give us hope for those who, like Saul, oppose the faith (Acts 8:3)?

INWARDS – Growing in Fellowship with One Another

4. How does reading about the Samaritans influence our understanding of who "belongs" in God's kingdom and His power to reconcile long-standing hostilities?
5. How does the love, kindness, and mercy of God toward us help us to forgive and accept others in the faith, even those we think are unlikely to respond?
6. Who in your life feels like a "Samaritan," and how can you pursue them with grace this week?

OUTWARDS – Reaching Those Around Us

7. What is the joy people experienced in Acts 8:8? Have you experienced the same joy in a specific circumstance?
8. How can we persevere and continue to be witnesses of God's redemptive work even in times of hardship or difficulty?
9. How does this passage challenge us to intentionally reach out to those in need?