

# ACTS 8

## Main Point: 5 People to Examine

*23 Search me, O God, and know my heart;  
test me and know my anxious thoughts.  
24 Point out anything in me that offends you,  
and lead me along the path of everlasting life.*

*Psalms 139:23-24*

## Digging Deeper

### **Who do you say you are?**

As we discussed last week "Why we believe" today we wrestle with how much of it we actually put our faith in. Today's church is filled with people who profess the name of Christ but don't actually put their faith in Christ. Many of them claim Christ because in some way they feel like it benefits them or makes them a better person. Much like Simon the magician, he claimed Christ because he saw great power and wanted that power for himself. There was no real commitment or surrendering himself to Christ in his confession. This week in Acts 8 we looked at 5 types of people when concerning Christ.

1. **Persecutors**- Verses 1-3
2. **Proclaimers/ Preachers**- Verses 4-12
3. **Professors**- Verses 14-25
4. **Pursuers/Possessors**- Verses 26-40
5. **Personal** - Who do you say you are?

Let's take a moment to examine each type and how we may find ourselves falling into each category.

## Discussion Questions

1. Examine **The Persecutor**, Saul of Tarsus - (Acts 22:3, Philippians 3:5) He saw the church as an enemy of religion. How does persecution advance the Kingdom of God? Are there any similarities here with the Tower of Babel? (Gen 11:1-9)
2. Examine **the Proclaimer**, Philip. Acts 8:31 Philip stops to explain scripture to the eunuch. How can you be more of a proclaimer helping others understand scripture?
3. Examine **the Professor** - Much like Simon there are people in this world who don't actually believe what they say. In what ways can we be absolutely sure of what we believe?
4. Examine **the Pursuer/Possessor** - The Eunuch is one who was seeking the truth. In our quest for truth, Is it ok to ask questions about scripture?
5. Examine **Ourselves** - How do we fall into each of the categories? How do we wrestle with ourselves to humbly seek and proclaim the Lord?