

GROWTH GUIDE

UNSTOPPABLE: THE ACTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
THE SCATTERED CHURCH | ACTS 8:1-25
FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 30, 2022

For you. Your family. Your group.

SERMON OUTLINE

1. Opposition of the Gospel brings multiplication. Acts 8:1-5
2. Proclamation of the Gospel brings transformation. Acts 8:6-8
3. Reception of the Gospel brings reconciliation. Acts 8:9-17
4. Manipulation of the Gospel brings confrontation. Acts 8:18-25

GROUP DISCUSSION

1. Looking back at the passage and your notes, is there anything you heard for the first time or something that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
2. Who were the Samaritans? How did Samaria come to be a separate nation from Judea? What was the relationship between the Samaritans and Jews like in Jesus's day?
3. "Preach the Gospel at all times and when necessary use words." Evaluate this common Christian saying with Scripture. What's good about it? Where does it fall short? What does it mean to preach the Gospel in both word and action?
4. In this passage we see the Samaritan and Jewish believers were reconciled through receiving the word of God. How does the Gospel enable us as a church today to be unified despite so many different people, with so many different interests, convictions, races, languages, etc.?
5. What are some ways either you or people in general are tempted to try to manipulate God or earn favor? For example, Simon in Acts 8 tried to use his wealth to purchase the power to give people the Holy Spirit.

BREAKOUT DISCUSSION

1. How have you been doing thus far at sharing the Gospel in 2022? Identify at least one particular person you're trying to share the Gospel with your small group can check in with you about throughout the year.
2. Share with the group how God has transformed and grown you through His word (v14) this past year. Are there any areas you're especially hoping for continued sanctification in that everyone can pray for?

PRAYER POINTS

1. Pray that we would serve our community so well that they would be glad we're here, and be sad if we were gone.
2. Ask God to give our church the boldness, courage, and wisdom to be sharing the gospel with the various nonbelievers God has placed in our lives.
3. Praise God for sending us the Holy Spirit, and with His help we can do great things in His name!