

The Heart of the Matter

12. In this passage we see racial prejudices put aside for the cause of Christ. In what areas do you still wrestle with prejudice in your life?

13. Simon initially had wrong motives in deciding to follow Christ. What was your primary motivation when you gave your life to Christ?

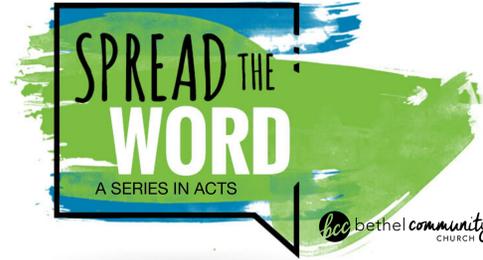
14. Simon was jealous of Peter and John's ministry ability. Is this something that you have ever wrestled with? How should we think about others who seem to have more ministry giftedness than we do?

15. What title would you give this passage of Scripture? What do you think is the overall lesson from this passage for you?

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Life Group Study Guide

Faithful Ambassadors Acts 8:4-25 For the Week of January 27, 2019

Getting Started

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling?
2. Who was your hero when you were 10? Why were they your hero? What ability did they have that you wish you had?
3. It's always awkward to ask someone to stop doing something that you don't agree with, you don't think is right, or is potentially hurtful to someone else or even themselves. How have you handled situations like that in the past? How did things go for you?

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Some questions adapted from: The NIV (c) Serendipity Bible, 1996, Serendipity House, and Bible Study
Fellowship International @ www.bsfiinternational.org

Digging Deeper

4. From verses 5-11 what did Simon and Philip have in common? How were they different? How did the crowd respond to both men?

5. Given that the Samaritans were considered outcasts by the Jews (John 4:9), why would Peter and John come to them? How were the Samaritans different from the Jews?

6. Why would the Father delay pouring out His Spirit until Peter and John were on the scene? Was this really a lesson for the Samaritans or for the apostles?

7. What does it mean in verse 13 that Simon himself believed? Was his faith in the apostles, himself, or God's Word?

8. In what ways does Simon's reaction to the apostles in verses 18-19 show his deep misunderstanding about the Gospel? What would have happened if Simon's confession was not challenged by Peter?

9. What does this episode with Simon show about how close a person can come to salvation and still be lost?

10. Peter and John quickly straighten Simon out concerning his misunderstanding about the source of God's power in verses 20-23. Do you believe they handled the situation too leniently, too harshly, or just right?

11. How do Simon's words in verse 24 reveal a real change in his heart or not?