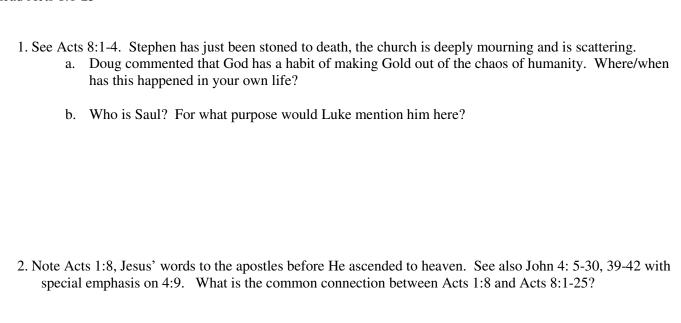
Sermon Date: October 27, 2013 Acts 8:1-25 – The Word Goes to Samaria Doug McBride

Read Acts 8:1-25



- 3. See Acts 8:14-17.
 - a. What is the purpose of the Apostle's visit from Jerusalem?
 - b. What was different about this picture of the new believers than when people believed at Pentecost (Acts 2)? What did the Apostles do differently with these new believers? What do you make of this?

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4	See	ACIS	X'9-/4

- a. Why is Simon especially captivated by certain aspects of Philip's activity (v. 7-13)?
- b. When the new converts receive the Holy Spirit through the laying on of hands, Simon becomes even more intensely interested (v. 18-19). What is he really after?
- c. Why do you think Peter gives Simon such a strong reply (v. 20-23)?

- 5. Doug pointed out some good observations about what Simon teaches us:
 - That we need to be aware of the difference between fascination and real faith.
 - That any attempt to bring God's Spirit under human control is abhorrent.
 - Whenever we are more fascinated BY WHAT HAPPENS than by God, we are way off.

What is a lesson we can learn and apply from this experience?

Personal Application:

Doug commented "Our life is not about doing stuff for God, but being so wowed by God that all we have to do is stand in the story and out of a deep sense of love and gratitude watch God on the move."

How can you personally apply this to your own life?

How is this freeing?