

# Showing the Spirit's Power (Acts 8:4-25)

*God's Power Continues – Part 7*  
Life Church St. Louis – May 17, 2015  
Lead Pastor – Dr. Dan Walker

*Acts 8:1b (NIV) On that day a great persecution broke out against the church at Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were scattered throughout Judea and Samaria.*

*Acts 8:4 (NIV) Those who had been scattered preached the word wherever they went.*

*Acts 2:38 (NIV) Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.*

*1 Corinthians 14:1a (NIV) Follow the way of love and eagerly desire spiritual gifts.*

## 1. Share God's Word \_\_\_\_\_

*Acts 8:5 (NIV) Philip went down to a city in Samaria and proclaimed the Christ there.*

### 1A. Miraculous signs get \_\_\_\_\_

*Acts 8:6 (NIV) When the crowds heard Philip and saw the miraculous signs he did, they all paid close attention to what he said.*

### 1B. Deliverance and healing \_\_\_\_\_ the Word

*Acts 8:7-8 (NIV) With shrieks, evil spirits came out of many, and many paralytics and cripples were healed. So there was great joy in that city.*

## 2. Discern \_\_\_\_\_ signs

*Acts 8:9-10 (NIV) Now for some time a man named Simon had practiced sorcery in the city and amazed all the people of Samaria. He boasted that he was someone great, and all the people, both high and low, gave him their*

*attention and exclaimed, "This man is the divine power known as the Great Power."*

## 2A. \_\_\_\_\_ the good news of Jesus

*Acts 8:12a (NIV) But when they believed Philip as he preached the good news of the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ ...*

## 2B. Be \_\_\_\_\_ in water

*Acts 8:12b-13 (NIV) ... they were baptized, both men and women. Simon himself believed and was baptized. And he followed Philip everywhere, astonished by the great signs and miracles he saw.*

## 3. Receive the baptism in the \_\_\_\_\_

*Acts 8:14 (NIV) When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them.*

## 3A. Spirit baptism is not \_\_\_\_\_

*Acts 8:15-17 (NIV) When they arrived, they prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit, because the Holy Spirit had not yet come upon any of them; they had simply been baptized into the name of the Lord Jesus. Then Peter and John placed their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.*

## 3B. Speaking in \_\_\_\_\_ is the initial evidence

*Acts 8:18-19 (NIV) When Simon saw that the Spirit was given at the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money and said, "Give me also this ability so that everyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit."*

## 3C. The power of the Spirit is a \_\_\_\_\_

*Acts 8:20-22 (NIV) Peter answered: "May your money perish with you, because you thought you could buy the gift of God with money! You have no part or share in this ministry, because your heart is not right before God. Repent of this wickedness and pray to the Lord. Perhaps he will forgive you for having such a thought in your heart.*

# Showing the Spirit's Power (Acts 8:4-25) Study Guide

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Intro. In what ways did the death of Stephen cause the early church to grow (Acts 8:1-4)?

What was the Gospel that the early church shared (Acts 2:38)?

How do you think that God chooses people to perform miraculous signs through (Acts 6:8, 8:6, 1 Corinthians 14:1)?

1A. What does it mean that the believers “preached the word wherever they went” (Acts 8:4-5)?

1B. Why does God utilize miraculous signs (Acts 8:6)?

1C. Explain the signs that Philip performed (Acts 8:7-8).

1D. What are the requirements for the one who prays and for the one prayed for in order for healing to occur?

2A. What power did Simon use in order to perform his sorcery (Acts 8:9-10)?

2B. What was Philip's message all about (Acts 8:12a)?

2C. What were the first two things that those who heard Philip preach did (Acts 8:12b-13)?

2D. What was the visible difference between what Simon and Philip did and it's effect?

3A. Why did the apostles send Peter and John to see Philip in Samaria (Acts 8:14)?

3B. What does Acts 8:15-17 tell us about the baptism in the Holy Spirit?

3C. From what we have already learned about the baptism in the Holy Spirit, what evidence did Simon see concerning the reception of the Spirit (Acts 8:18-19)?

3D. What was wrong with Simon's request (Acts 8:20-22)?

3E. Why did Peter call the baptism in the Holy Spirit “the gift of God” (Acts 8:20)?

3F. How does this account of Samaritan believers correlate with Acts 2:38? What would you say to someone who thought that every believer is automatically baptized in the Holy Spirit when they are saved?