

ACTS 8

“The Spirit in Action”

“I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain (abide) in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

~ John 15:5

Acts 8 – Text in Context

Takes place after Stephen's stoning

- *8:1 – “And Saul approved of their killing him.”*

Church being persecuted

- *8:3 – “But Saul began to destroy the church. Going from house to house, he dragged off both men and women and put them in prison.”*

Scattered/Empowered

Acts 8:1 – “and all except the apostles were scattered throughout Judea and Samaria”

- **Opposite of the togetherness earlier in Acts (2:1; 2:44; 4:32)**
- **Fulfills Acts 1:8 – “and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Juda and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”**

Scattered/Empowered

4 Those who had been scattered preached the word wherever they went. 5 Philip went down to a city in Samaria and proclaimed the Messiah there. ~Acts 8:4,5

- Preached - *Εὐαγγελιζόμενοι* - “Brought the Good News”

Directs/Connects

- ***Vs. 26 - "Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Go south to the road—the desert road—that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza."***
- ***Vs. 29 - The Spirit told Philip, "Go to that chariot and stay near it."***

Direct/ Connect

Vs. 30 – “Then Philip ran up to the chariot.”

- Phillip responded because he was connected to the Spirit and was eager to connect with the Eunuch.
- ***“Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.”*** ~Galatians 5:25

How can we like Philip, know when the Spirit is speaking to us?

Inviting/Igniting

Vs. 31 “Do you understand what you are reading?” Philip asked. ³¹ “How can I,” he said, “unless someone explains it to me?” So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.

Vs. 35 - “Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus.”

- *(NASB) – “Then Philip opened his mouth”*

Inviting/Igniting

Vs. 36 – “What can stand in the way of me being baptized?”

- When the Spirit moves and there is obedience to the Spirit – the Bible tells us that there will be belief/repentance/baptism/ and spirit-filing**

Vs. 39 – The Eunuch went on his way rejoicing.

Final thoughts

- **Are we allowing the Spirit to speak to us as believers?**
- **What gifts of the Spirit has God grown in me for the edification of others?**
- **What things are keeping me from embracing the power of the Holy Spirit in my life?**

Spirit of the Living God,

Fall afresh on me

Spirit of the Living God,

Fall afresh on me

Melt me, mold me
Fill me, use me
Spirit of the Living God
Fall afresh on me