



Devotion Info

Getting Out of Town

DAY 1 Read Acts 8:1-4 and Romans 8:28

[1] Saul was one of the witnesses, and he agreed completely with the killing of Stephen. A great wave of persecution began that day, sweeping over the church in Jerusalem; and all the believers except the apostles were scattered through the regions of Judea and Samaria. [2] (Some devout men came and buried Stephen with great mourning.) [3] But Saul was going everywhere to destroy the church. He went from house to house, dragging out both men and women to throw them into prison. [4] But the believers who were scattered preached the Good News about Jesus wherever they went.

Acts 8:1-4 NLT

[28] And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.

Romans 8:28 NLT

- Why do you think God allowed persecution to scatter the early church?

DAY 2 Read Acts 8:1-4 and Romans 8:28

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Acts 8:1-4 NLT

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Romans 8:28 NLT

- Have you ever seen God use a trial in your life for something greater?

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DAY 3 Read Acts 8:5-8 and Galatians 3:28

[5] Philip, for example, went to the city of Samaria and told the people there about the Messiah. [6] Crowds listened intently to Philip because they were eager to hear his message and see the miraculous signs he did. [7] Many evil spirits were cast out, screaming as they left their victims. And many who had been paralyzed or lame were healed. [8] So there was great joy in that city.

Acts 8:5-8 NLT

[28] There is no longer Jew or Gentile, slave or free, male and female. For you are all one in Christ Jesus.
Galatians 3:28 NLT

- Who might be your “Samaritans” today---people outside your normal circle who need to hear the Gospel?

DAY 4 Read Acts 8:14-25 and I Corinthians 12:13

[14] When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that the people of Samaria had accepted God’s message, they sent Peter and John there. [15] As soon as they arrived, they prayed for these new believers to receive the Holy Spirit. [16] The Holy Spirit had not yet come upon any of them, for they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. [17] Then Peter and John laid their hands upon these believers, and they received the Holy Spirit.

[18] When Simon saw that the Spirit was given when the apostles laid their hands on people, he offered them money to buy this power. [19] “Let me have this power, too,” he exclaimed, “so that when I lay my hands on people, they will receive the Holy Spirit!”

[20] But Peter replied, “May your money be destroyed with you for thinking God’s gift can be bought!”

[21] You can have no part in this, for your heart is not right with God.

[22] Repent of your wickedness and pray to the Lord. Perhaps he will forgive your evil thoughts, [23] for I can see that you are full of bitter jealousy and are held captive by sin.”

[24] “Pray to the Lord for me,” Simon exclaimed, “that these terrible things you’ve said won’t happen to me!”

[25] After testifying and preaching the word of the Lord in Samaria, Peter and John returned to Jerusalem. And they stopped in many Samaritan villages along the way to preach the Good News.

Acts 8:14-25 NLT

[13] Some of us are Jews, some are Gentiles, some are slaves, and some are free. But we have all been baptized into one body by one Spirit, and we all share the same Spirit.

I Corinthians 12:13 NLT

- Why is it significant that the Spirit came upon the Samaritans after the apostles laid hands on them?

DAY 5 Read Acts 8:14-25

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Acts 8:14-25 NLT

- What was wrong with Simon's request to buy the Holy Spirit's power?
- What does this teach us about motives in ministry?

If you would like a daily reminder of these devotionals for each week's sermon, text "DEVO" to 512-877-5131 and you'll receive a text message after 8am Monday-Friday with a link to that day's devotional.