

For Starters: What techniques or guidance do you use when reading Scripture, to understand it?

Witness in Judea and Samaria (8:4—12:25)

Philip in Samaria (8:4-25)

Philip Preaches and Baptizes (8:4-13)

8:5-8 Who else has been to Samaria, and how was he received there? (see **John 4**)

8:9 Why is Simon famous in Samaria?

8:13 Why does Simon decide to travel with Philip?

Peter and John Arrive (8:14-25)

8:14-15 What do the apostles do upon hearing that people have accepted the gospel elsewhere?

8:16-17 What is the distinction being made between Philip's ministry and the ministry of the apostles?

Which two sacraments are indicated by the action of Philip and the action of the apostles?

Philip and the Eunuch (8:26-40)

Philip Joins the Eunuch (8:26-34)

8:27 What obstacle would the Ethiopian eunuch face in going to Jerusalem to worship?
(see **Deuteronomy 23:1**)

8:30-31 Why does the Eunuch need Philip's assistance?

8:32-33 What is the context of this passage from Isaiah? (see **Isaiah 52:13—53:12**)

Philip Preaches, Baptizes, and Departs (8:35-40)

8:35 How would you interpret this passage from Isaiah and apply it to Jesus?

8:36 What are some of the signs that Isaiah prophesied would accompany God's saving action in Israel? (see **Isaiah 35:4-7**)

What sort of road were Philip and the eunuch traveling along? (see **8:26**)

What do they come across along this road?

Is the eunuch's physical condition an impediment to being baptized?

8:39 What more will the eunuch read in Isaiah that will give him cause to rejoice? (see **Isaiah 56**)

The Conversion of Saul (9:1-31)

Saul Heads to Damascus (9:1-9)

9:1-5 Who does Saul believe he is persecuting, and who does Jesus say he is actually persecuting?

What does this say about the union between Christ and his disciples?

9:2 What is the name given to the association of disciples of Christ?

What might be the origin of this name?

9:8-9 What does the period and nature of Saul's condition represent?

God Calls Ananias of Damascus (9:10-16)

9:11 What might be the symbolism of the street where Saul is staying?

9:16 What might Jesus mean about showing Saul "how much he must suffer" for his sake?

Saul is Healed, Baptized, and Preaches (9:17-22) • Saul Escapes Damascus (9:23-25)

9:21-22 How do people react to Saul's presence and preaching?

How is this similar to how some people react to Jesus? (see **Mark 6:2-3**)

Saul is Accepted by the Apostles (9:26-31)

9:26-30 How is Saul's experience in Jerusalem similar to his experience in Damascus?

9:31 What Greek words does Luke use to describe "the Church **throughout all** Judea...?"

What English word do we get from those Greek words, and what does it mean?

Application: When have I been "amazed", like Simon was, at the works of God?

Application: Have I ever felt that God was calling me to do something I was afraid to do, like Ananias?