

Bible Study for January 9, 2021

Read: Acts 8:9-25

Notes:

Peter and John are sent to support the new Christians in Samaria, a group that was recently baptized after hearing the good news of Christ through the preaching of Philip. Here the Samaritans receive the gift of the Holy Spirit in the laying on of hand.

Questions to Ponder:

In your early years, who did you aspire to be? Who did you idolize?

What do Simon and Phillip have in common? How are they different?

Because the Samaritans were considered outcasts by the Jews, why might Peter and John go to them? Is there a lesson here for us to learn regarding who we might invite to worship services?

In what ways does Simon's reaction to the apostles in verses 18-19 show a deep misunderstanding about the gospel?

Do you see similar misunderstandings in your own faith or in the lives of others? How might this be convincingly addressed?

What is your primary motivation for continuing in the faith? What keeps you going in faith? How might you share that insight with others?