

## Sermon Worksheet, 7/26/09

Passage: Acts 8:1-25

Theme: I am God's Temple No.9

*Don't you know that  
you yourselves are  
God's temple and that  
God's Spirit lives in  
you? (1 Cor 3:16)*



In this drill, we will learn what it means to **“receive the Holy Spirit.”**

### Observations:

- 1) Briefly explain what was happening before this: where had the gospel been mostly preached, and what kind of people did the church consist of? According to 1:8, how did God plan to spread the gospel: starting with what city, then to what regions?
- 2) Recall the story of John 4 where Jesus taught about the living water, and true worshippers, and then when the disciples came back, he went on to discuss about the sower and the reaper. What relationships do you see between what we read in John 4 and the event recorded in Acts 8?
- 3) Who was Philip, what did he do in Samaria, and what happened there? Then, what happened after Peter and John came to Samaria? **“To accept the word of God,” “to be baptized into the name of the Lord Jesus,”** and **“to receive the Holy Spirit”**—do these three expressions mean the same thing or different things? If they mean different things, in what order did they occur in this story?

### Personal Applications:

- 1) Concerning each of **“accepting the word of God,” “being baptized into the name of the Lord Jesus,”** and **“receiving the Holy Spirit”**, which of the following statements applies in your understanding: 1) Every person should receive it, 2) You'd better receive it if it is God's will, 3) If you want to, you can receive it, but if you don't want to, you do not have to, 4) I would receive it, but I don't push others to receive it, 5) You'd better not receive it, 6) You should not receive it? Explain why too.
- 2) Is **“receiving the Holy Spirit”** an abstract or philosophical statement or something for a psychological effect? Note how Simon the sorcerer wished by saying, **“Give me also this ability so that everyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit,”** and explain what it indicates about “receiving the Holy Spirit.” If you can, you can share with others how you received the Holy Spirit.
- 3) How do you think a person changes when he/she receives the Holy Spirit? Is there anything good about it? You can explain from the stories in the Bible, or from your own experiences.

### Prayers, and etc.

- 1) Seek the Holy Spirit, and pray that he will work for you. Do not forget that the Holy Spirit himself wishes to work for you too.
- 2) Pray for your group, and your family that you will have more presence of the Holy Spirit in your gatherings.
- 3) Continue to pray for **“everyone”** and **“all the saints”**: especially, for those who have not received the Holy Spirit yet. Pray also for the recent and the future newcomers, and for the coming Summer Bible Camp.