

# Simon Says What?!

## Acts 8:4-25

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Forging Forward

### Reflect

Outline: Recap

### Realize

Points to Ponder

### Respond

Questions to draw out understanding.

## REFLECT

In Acts 8, we see great revival following the preaching of the Gospel of Jesus Christ by the deacon Philip. And yet, we also see deliberate deception carried out by Simon the Sorcerer, a prideful and selfish man. This section highlights the distinction between genuine faith and self-seeking motives. How can we best discern wise counsel from dangerous doctrine? What are the implications of attempting to manipulate the ministry of the Holy Spirit? How can we best ensure that we are carefully and genuinely seeking God's will and the Holy Spirit's leading? Join us as we look at the power of the Holy Spirit and the dangers of seeking spiritual gifts for personal gain.

## REALIZE

### 1. The Holy Spirit Scatters Seeds and Signs.

- **Scripture Reference;** Acts 8:4-25; Acts 8:9-13
- **Questions for Reflection**
  - Have you experienced the ministry of the Holy Spirit?

### 2. The Spirit of Satan Scatters Lies and Deceit.

- **Scripture Reference;** Acts 8:4-25; Acts 8:14-25
- **Questions for Reflection**
  - Have you experienced the ministry of the Holy Spirit?

### 3. The Holy Spirit Is More Trustworthy Than Your Own Heart.

- **Scripture Reference;** Acts 8:4-25
- **Questions for Reflection**
  - What confuses you about the role of the Holy Spirit in a person's life?

### Optional Follow-up Questions:

- What makes you say that?
- How do you feel about that?
- How would you explain your answer to a non-Christian friend or neighbor?
- Why did God design it to work that way? Why not just do (whatever else) instead?
- What would you say to someone who disagrees with that?
- Why do we really have to do it like that? Why can't we just go (some other route) instead?