

## Acts 8: 4-25

*For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.  
1 Corinthians 1:18*

### Reading this week:

S	Acts 8:4-8
M	Acts 8:9-25
T	Isaiah 47:12-15
W	Isaiah 44:9-11
Th	Isaiah 44:24-26
F	Isaiah 46:5-10
S	Psalm 20

Acts 8:14 tells us that the apostles heard about Phillip's preaching in Samaria. Possibly Philip wrote to them about it. What might he have said about the work he had done and the reaction it had received?



Phoney 'power'

Real power

Fortune telling, horoscopes, magicians and others all try to predict the future but they only succeed by cheating (magicians) or by being very vague about what they are saying will happen. Contrast this with God's predictions of the future in his prophecies - his words are very specific and we can test them for accuracy as history proves them right.

## Digging Deeper

In this lesson we have learnt that God's spirit brought great joy to the city. How else did God's spirit help the early church?

Matthew 10:20

John 6:63

John 14:26

John 16:13

Acts 1:8

Acts 4:31 s

Romans 8:26

Galatians 5:22

2 Timothy 1:7

(You may notice that the AV sometimes refers to the 'holy spirit' as 'holy ghost'. This is just a more old fashioned way of referring to it. Some more modern translations on the other hand, often refer to the 'holy spirit' as 'he'. This is a bad translation. God's power is not a separate being roaming the earth on it own.)

What sorts of power do you experience in your every day life? Are all the sources of power good? What can you do about changing anything for the better?

Pray that God will help you to recognise his power working in your life.