

Sermon Discussion (8/10/2025)

The Church is Born / Acts 8:1–6

The Church is growing. The more it grows the more it threatens the power structure in place.

Title: Proclaiming the Word

The Main Question: Why should we preach God's word?

Points to Consider

1. Because people are dead until they are made alive.
2. Because it's the only way the gospel spreads.
3. Because everyone is going to die.
4. Because people suffer without it.

Scripture References:

Acts 8:1–6 NIV

¹ And Saul approved of their killing him. On that day a great persecution broke out against the church in Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were scattered throughout Judea and Samaria. ² Godly men buried Stephen and mourned deeply for him. ³ But Saul began to destroy the church. Going from house to house, he dragged off both men and women and put them in prison. ⁴ Those who had been scattered preached the word wherever they went. ⁵ Philip went down to a city in Samaria and proclaimed the Messiah there. ⁶ When the crowds heard Philip and saw the signs he performed, they all paid close attention to what he said.

Application Questions

What do you think about when “preaching the word” comes to mind?

Love God / Invitation / Relationship

We experience the love of God when we invite Him into our lives.

- Read [Acts 8:1-6](#).
- Where is the invitation to love God in this passage?
- Who is making it?
- What is Saul doing?
- Why is he doing it?

Find Freedom / Learning / Clarity

Freedom is found when we learn a new way to think.

- In this passage God is teaching the people to think differently. Is Saul in bondage?
- What kind of thinking is causing his bondage?
- What is the irony here?

See God / Prayer / Affirmation

It is much easier for us to “see” God when we are communicating with God.
Prayer is how we communicate with God.

- Who can see God in this passage?
- What can you do to more clearly see God in your circumstances?

Experience Healing / Serve Others / Opportunities

The brokenness in our hearts begins to heal as we serve other people.

- Where is the brokenness in this passage?
- Who is broken?
- Do they know they are broken?
- Does power cover up brokenness?

Discover Joy / Gratitude / Community

The more grateful we are the more joy we feel.

- Can you find any gratitude in this passage?
- Where is the joy?
- Why are we so attracted to anger?