

Family Discipleship Resource

Aug 31-Sep 6
(Acts 8:14-24)



G – Gather for Prayer

Father,

Thank you for saving me when I could not save myself. You are a God of grace and I can do nothing to earn it. Protect me from distorting your grace.

In Jesus' Name, Amen

R – Read the Text (Acts 8:14-24)

"14 Now when the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent them Peter and John, 15 who came down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit. 16 For He had not yet fallen upon any of them; they had simply been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. 17 Then they began laying their hands on them, and they were receiving the Holy Spirit. 18 Now when Simon saw that the Spirit was bestowed through the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money, 19 saying, "Give this authority to me as well, so that everyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit." 20 But Peter said to him, "May your silver perish with you, because you thought you could obtain the gift of God with money! 21 You have no part or portion in this matter, for your heart is not right before God. 22 Therefore repent of this wickedness of yours, and pray the Lord that, if possible, the intention of your heart may be forgiven you. 23 For I see that you are in the gall of bitterness and in the bondage of iniquity." 24 But Simon answered and said, "Pray to the Lord for me yourselves, so that nothing of what you have said may come upon me."

O – Observe what God has said

What does Simon get horribly wrong?

What is Peter's advice to Simon?

W – Work on Application

So what? What does this have to say to us? How might we apply this to our lives? As the gospel is taken into all the world (including the world that God has placed around us), it is going to be met with all kinds of people who seek to mix a little of what we may be sharing—the gospel—with whatever they already have cooking. It is called syncretism and it describes the unsuccessful attempt to blend the truth of God with the ways of the world. In such a world and among such people, we must be fully convinced of the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth that is communicated in God's word. This requires that we know it, study it, memorize it, and apply it rightly to our lives.

How might we take God's Word more seriously today?

What steps will you take this week to embrace God's Word?

Family Weekly Memory Verse: *"For by grace are you saved through faith and this is not of yourselves, it is a gift, not of works so no one can boast."-Eph 2:8-9*