Lesson Eight: Philip's Journeys

The Samaritans (read verses 8:4-25)

1)	Questions 1 and 5 will help you compare the two episodes in this week's reading. a) In 8:4-25 who is evangelized, convinced, and baptized?
	b) What do the Jews think of these people (see John 4:9)?
	c) How is this group's conversion significant to the progress of the gospel?
	d) What convinces this group to become believers (8:6-8, 12)?
	e) What are the apostles' Peter and John's role in bringing this group into the church (8:14-17)?
2)	Why do you think it was important for God to use the apostles to demonstrate officially that the Samaritans were to become true participants in the church (see John 4:21-24)?
3)	What was so terrible about Simon's request in 8:18-19?
4)	Why do you think Luke recorded the episode with Simon? What does it add to the story of Acts?
Th	ne Ethiopian eunuch (read verses 8:26-40)
5)	Keep question 1 in mind as you answer these questions. a) Who accepted the gospel in this story?
	b) What status did this kind of person have with the Jews (see Deuteronomy 23:1)?
	c) How was the eunuch's conversion significant to the progress of the gospel (Isaiah 56:3-5; 2:11-18)?
	d) What was Philip's role in taking the step to permit such a person into the church? Why is this important?
	e) What convinced the eunuch to be baptized (8:35)?
6)	Summarize what both stories in 8:4-40 contribute to the overall message of Acts.

✓	Do you know anyone in a position like the Samaritans or the eunuch who feels unwelcome in the
	church today? How can you help that group or person?
✓	How were these stories relevant to your life? What sins to avoid, examples to follow, or truths about
	God did they offer?
✓	What one insight from this week's reading would you like to apply? How can you do this?