**God’s Providence (God’s Plan in Action)**

Acts 8:4-40

**Background:**

* Church was experiencing external and internal opposition.
* Latest round of persecution led by Saul

**Characters in First Story (Acts 4-24)**

* Philip: one of seven men chosen in Acts ch 6
* Simon the Magician: A prominent Samaritan sorcerer who wanted to pay to control the Holy Spirit.
* Samaritan Believers: Samaritans who heard Philip’s message about the Good news of Christ, believed, and were baptized.
* Peter and John: Apostles of Jesus, came to verify the Samaritans were true believers

**Characters in Second Story (Acts 4-24)**

* Philip: one of seven men chosen in Acts ch 6
* Ethiopian Eunuch: A prominent official who was seeking after God

Questions:

Why did the Samaritans not receive the Holy Spirit when they believed and were baptized?

What can we learn from Simon?

Who can be baptized?

How can I participate in God’s plan?