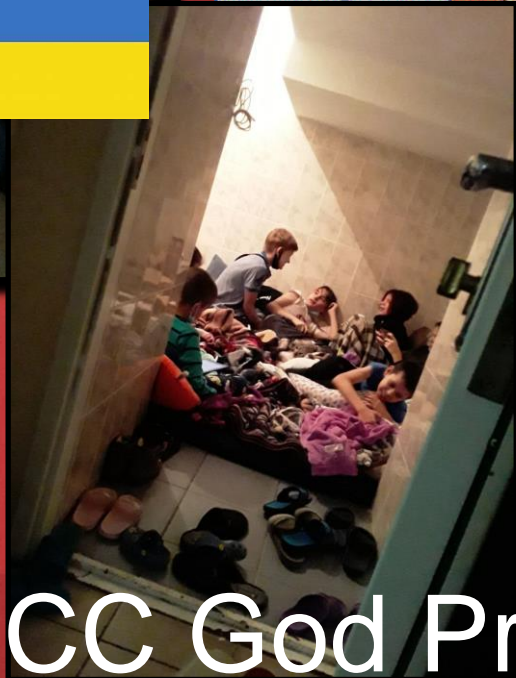


Stepping Into...

The Unexpected



With BCC God Provided for 1 Boy...

Stepping Into...

“Worry does not empty tomorrow of its sorrows; it empties today of its strength.”

Corrie ten Boom

1. Don't Let Uncertainty Define Us...

Acts 8:1 & 3 NLT

¹ Saul was one of the witnesses, and he agreed completely with the killing of Stephen. A great wave of persecution began that day, sweeping over the church in Jerusalem; and **all the believers except the apostles were scattered** through the regions of Judea and Samaria.

³ ...Saul was going everywhere to destroy the church.

2. Unexpected Doors Open

Acts 8:4-5 NLT

⁴ But the believers who were scattered preached the Good News about Jesus wherever they went.

⁵ **Philip, for example**, went to the city of Samaria and told the people there about the Messiah.

“We must be taken out of the ordinary. We must be brought into the extraordinary.”

Smith Wigglesworth

3. Unexpected Impact - Power Released!

Acts 8:6-8 NLT

⁶ Crowds listened intently to Philip because they were eager to hear his message and see the miraculous signs he did. ⁷ Many evil spirits were cast out, screaming as they left their victims. And many who had been paralyzed or lame were healed. ⁸ So there was great joy in that city.

4. Unexpected Salvation – Samaritans!

Acts 8:9, 12-13 NLT

⁹ A man named Simon had been a sorcerer there for many years, amazing the people of Samaria and claiming to be someone great.

¹² But now the people believed Philip's message of Good News concerning **the Kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ**. As a result, many men and women were baptized. ¹³ Then Simon himself believed and was baptized...

5. Discovered 'Baptism' in the Holy Spirit

Acts 8:14-17 NLT

¹⁴ When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that the people of Samaria had accepted God's message, they sent Peter and John there. ¹⁵ As soon as they arrived, they prayed for these new believers to receive the Holy Spirit. ¹⁶ The Holy Spirit had not yet come upon any of them, for they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ¹⁷ Then Peter and John **laid their hands upon these believers**, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Life in the Holy Spirit...

Initial Indication

Acts 19:6 NLT “⁶ Then when Paul laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in other tongues and prophesied.”

Purpose – To have power

Acts 1:8 NLT “⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere-”

“Gifts” – To Build up...

1Cor. 12:7-11 NLT “⁷ A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other. (*Wisdom, knowledge, faith, healing, miracles, prophecy, discernment of spirits, unknown languages, interpretation*) ¹¹ It is the one and only Spirit who distributes all these gifts. He alone decides which gift each person should have.

6. Hearing God Speak – Unexpected Ways

Acts 8:26-29 NLT

²⁶ As for Philip, **an angel of the Lord said to him**, “Go south down the desert road that runs from Jerusalem to Gaza.”

²⁷ So he started out, and he met the treasurer of Ethiopia, a eunuch of great authority under the Kandake, the queen of Ethiopia. The eunuch had gone to Jerusalem to worship, ²⁸ and he was now returning. Seated in his carriage, he was reading aloud from the book of the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹ **The Holy Spirit said to Philip**, “Go over and walk along beside the carriage.”

Stepping Into...

The Unexpected