

## Title: Same Mission - Different Messenger

Text: Acts 8:4 - 8

January 26, 2020

**Walk-In:** I read once that It has been said that every human institution goes through three stages of development: First, it is started by **risk takers**. Then it is eventually handed over to **caretakers**. At some point decline sets in and the institution is led by **undertakers**. We may smile at that but the truth of it is scary. Too many churches have lost their mission focus (not missions focus) and are simply maintaining until they have a funeral for the church. As we look today at a fairly short portion of scripture, I hope we will catch anew the mission, the messenger and the message of the Church Alive in this story

First, it is a church with a **C** \_\_\_\_\_ **M** \_\_\_\_\_.  
“Therefore, those who had been scattered went about preaching the word.” **Acts 8:4 (NASB)**

- They were **S** \_\_\_\_\_.  
“Diaspora” - seed scatterers.
- They **P** \_\_\_\_\_. The ‘gospelling’ of the gospel  
cf. Isaiah 52:7
- They went about **W** \_\_\_\_\_.

Then, it is a church with an **A** \_\_\_\_\_ **M** \_\_\_\_\_.  
**Acts 8:5,6**

A Man called Philip  
Who was he?  
Where did he go?  
Why did he go?  
What was left behind?

- He was in the **S** \_\_\_\_\_.  
Peter - Acts 1- 5  
The Apostles - Acts 5:12  
The Seven - Acts 6  
(Included Stephen & Philip)  
Saul - Acts 9 ff.

- He **P** \_\_\_\_\_ what he **P** \_\_\_\_\_.  
“When the crowds heard Philip and saw the miraculous signs he did, they all paid close attention to what he said.”  
- Acts 8:6

**I'd Rather See A Sermon** by Edgar A. Guest

Finally, it is a church with a life-changing **M** \_\_\_\_\_.

It centered on the **C** \_\_\_\_\_.  
“...proclaimed Christ there.” - Acts 8:5

It ministered to the **W** \_\_\_\_\_ man.  
“With shrieks, evil spirits came out of many, and many paralytics and cripples were healed.” - Acts 8:7

It resulted in **G** \_\_\_\_\_ **J** \_\_\_\_\_.  
“So there was great joy in that city.” - Acts 8:8

**Wrap-up:** Steve Green has a song entitled *The Mission* which succinctly captures the core of the message lived out by many in the early church:

*To love the Lord our God is the heartbeat of our mission  
The spring from which our service overflows  
Across the street Or around the world  
The mission's still the same  
Proclaim and live the Truth in Jesus' name.*

Join the mission by being an available messenger of the Good News that brings great joy to those around you.

