



**Please Open Your
Bibles to Acts 8**

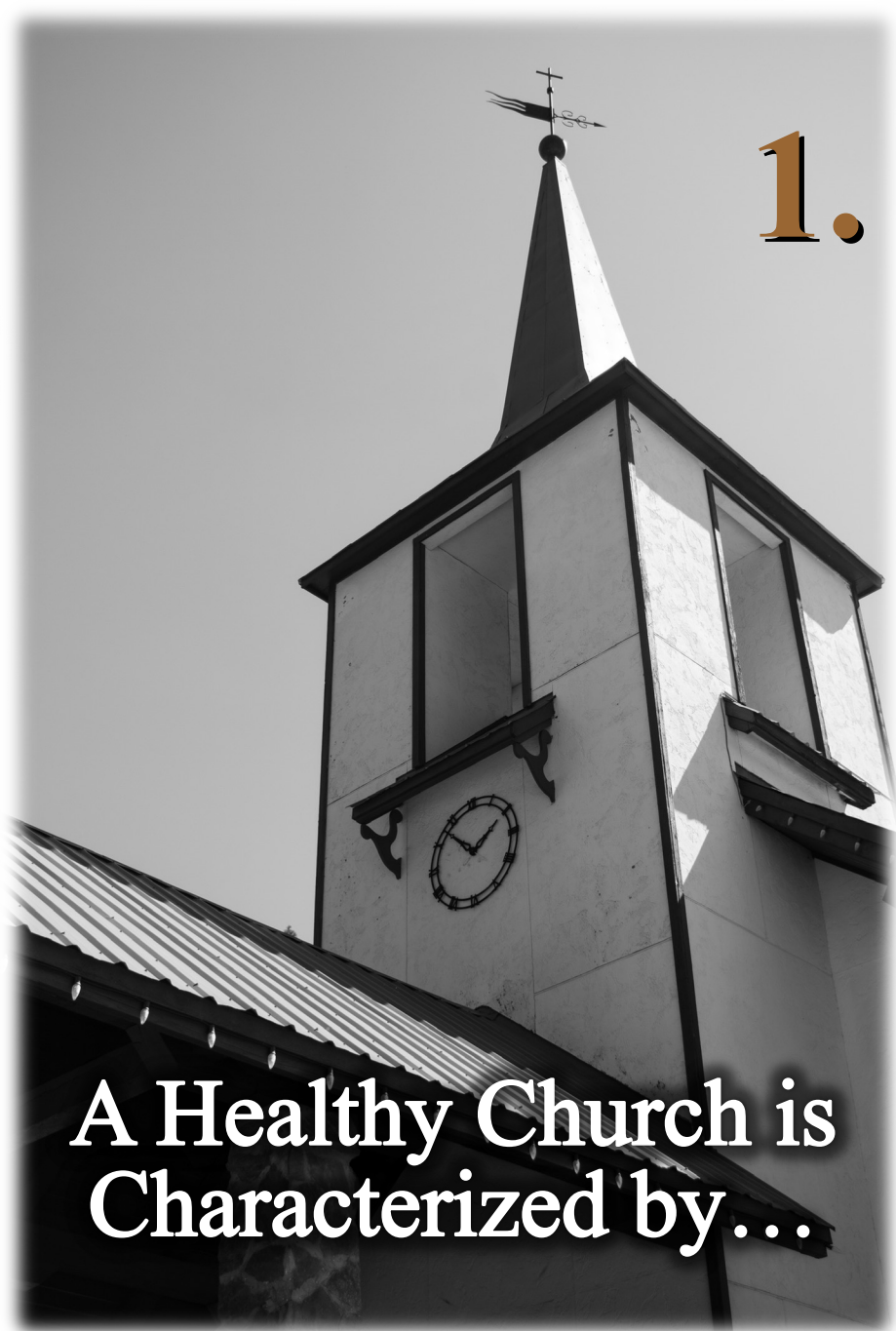
Characteristics of a Healthy Church

ACTS: The Sequel
Week #13

Tough Times

- Saul
- A meeting place
- Healthy Examples?





A Healthy Church is
Characterized by...

1. A willingness to share Jesus.

“⁴Those who had been scattered preached the word wherever they went. ⁵Philip went down to a city in Samaria and proclaimed the Messiah there.”

Acts 8:4-5



2. An experience of unity in the family.

“¹⁵When they arrived, they prayed for the **new believers** there that they might **receive the Holy Spirit**,
¹⁶because the Holy Spirit had not yet come on any of them; they had simply been baptized into the name of the Lord Jesus.”

A Healthy Church is
Characterized by...

Acts 8:15-16

Receiving of Holy Spirit

“You, however, are not controlled by the sinful nature but are in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, **they do not belong to Christ.**”

Receiving of Holy Spirit

“For we were all baptized by one Spirit
so as to form one body
whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free
and we were all given
the one Spirit to drink.”

1 Corinthians 12:13

Receiving of Holy Spirit

“¹³And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. **When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit,**
¹⁴who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God’s possession—to the praise of his glory.”

Ephesians 1:13-14

Experience of Unity

“²⁸There is neither Jew nor Gentile,
neither slave nor free, neither male nor female,
for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

²⁹If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s
seed, and heirs according to the promise.”

Galatians 3:28-29



3.

A commitment to core beliefs/practices.

“¹²But when they believed Philip as he proclaimed the good news of the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women. ¹³Simon himself believed and was baptized.”

A Healthy Church is
Characterized by...

Acts 8:12-13

Simony is Bad

“Come, all you who are thirsty,
come to the waters;
and you who have no money, come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without cost.”

Isaiah 55:1



4.

A passion for seekers.

“So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of the Kandake. This man had gone to Jerusalem to worship.”

A Healthy Church is
Characterized by...

Acts 8:27

A Passion for Seekers

- Without prejudice
- Without compromise





5. An obedience to follow God's leading.

“An angel of the Lord said...”

“The Spirit told Philip...”

“...The Spirit of the Lord suddenly took Philip away...”

A Healthy Church is
Characterized by...

Acts 8:26, 29, 39