



Not For Sale (Simon)

Sunday, July 14, 2019

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Stepping Stones Community Church

1. Simon hears about Jesus

- Sees miracles
- God's is stronger than his magic
- Baptism and amazement

⁵ Philip... went to the city of Samaria and told the people there about the Messiah. 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. ⁹ A man named Simon had been a sorcerer there for many years, amazing the people of Samaria and claiming to be someone great. ¹⁰ Everyone, from the least to the greatest, often spoke of him as "the Great One—the Power of God." ¹¹ They listened closely to him because for a long time he had astounded them with his magic. 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. He began following Philip wherever he went, and he was amazed by the signs and great miracles Philip performed. **Acts 8:5-13 NLT**

2. Simon's incomplete faith

- Focus on signs and power
- Wants to buy God's power
- No change of heart

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. ¹⁸ When Simon saw that the Spirit was given when the apostles laid their hands on people, he offered them money to buy this power. ¹⁹ "Let me have this power, too," he exclaimed, "so that when I lay my hands on people, they will receive the Holy Spirit!" ²⁰ But Peter replied, "May your money be destroyed with you for thinking God's gift can be bought! ²¹ You can have no part in this, for your heart is not right with God. ²² Repent of your wickedness and pray to the Lord. Perhaps he will forgive your evil thoughts, ²³ for I can see that you are full of bitter jealousy and are held captive by sin." ²⁴ "Pray to the Lord for me," Simon exclaimed, "that these terrible things you've said won't happen to me!" **Acts 8:14-24 NLT**

Next Steps:

- Re-read today's Bible story this week
- As I pray and seek God today, I (re)commit my life to him, and declare Jesus as my Lord and Savior
- Surrender my agenda to God's will
- Be filled with the Holy Spirit so that I am empowered to do all God calls me to do
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