題目 Title:

A Church On The Move

充滿動力的教會

經文 Passage:

徒 Acts 8:1-40

How do we view this long passage?

- 行出神的話: (v. 1-3) Treat God's Word 掃羅 Saul
- 傳揚神的話: (v. 4-8) Preach God's Word 腓利 Philip
- 欺騙神的話: (v. 9-25) Cheat God's Word 西門 Simon
- 誦讀神的話: (v. 26-40) Read God's Word 太監 Eunuch









A Jealous Persecutor - Saul the Pharisee (v. 1-3)

炉忌的逼迫者-法利賽推手掃羅

- a. Is Saul full of Holy Spirit?
- b. Is Saul full of wisdom ?
- c. Is Saul full of faith ?
- d. Is Saul full of power ?

e. Full controlled by the Holy Spirit

- Full of Holy Spirit: unify saints
- b. Full of wisdom: facilitates Word
- c. Full of faith: prayer ministry
- d. Full of power: promote harmony cross-culturally
- e. Full controlled by the Holy Spirit to absorbed complaints and concerns, resolved them in godliness, and so preserved the unity and witness of the saints

2. A Faithful Preacher –
Philip the <u>Deacon</u> (v. 4-8)
忠心的傳道者-教會執事腓利

A local church table server

"The joy, peace, unity and fruitfulness of the local church depends in part on having a cadre of faithful table servants who are present when needed, eager to serve without being intrusive."

3. A Tricky Perceiver- Simon the Sorcerer (v. 9-25)

詭詐的觀察者-行邪術的西門

Philip accepted Simon, serve him by baptizing him...

Phil. 2:3-8 Lowliness and willingness to serve reflects Christ's life who 'came to serve, not to be served'.

4. A Concerned Pursuer – Ethiopian Treasurer (v. 26-40) 渴慕的尋道者 - 埃塞俄比亞的 財務官

Philip kept in step with the Spirit. Not to stir up strife but settle it. He discern eunuch's needs, have insights, sound judgment.

- Discerning a deacon's quality:
- 1. Mature and growing Christian?
- 2. Show competence in the area of service?
- 3. Is there anything that disqualifies the prospective deacon from serving? (in character or competence)
- 4. Is the church support him/her?

5. Does the prospective deacon have a reputation for being filled with the Spirit and wisdom? Rather than flesh or sinful nature?

Fear the Lord, which is the beginning of wisdom (Prov. 1:7)

- 6. Questions: Does he/she put the ministry above the practical needs of the church?
- means to play as an opportunity to free up the ministry of the Word and prayer, not to compete with it. The facilitating aspect of his/her role, not an advocate for more attention to this or that practical need.