NWC Questions

for Personal Study and Small Groups - Nov. 2, 2014

The Servant Herald: Ordinary People Being Used in Extraordinary Ways!

Passage: Acts 8:1-25

Purpose: To encourage the church that we are to be a group of ordinary 'servant heralds' intentionally living in a way to bring joy and redemption to our spheres of influence.

Why are we fascinated with stories of ordinary people doing extraordinary things? How can it inspire others? How can it also leave people discouraged and depressed?

- 1. Read Acts 8:1-8: Who scattered from the persecution and who stayed in Jerusalem? Why is this a big deal? Why is it important for us to understand that God uses ordinary people? How can this be meaningfully connected to Acts 1:8?
- 2. Who was Philip? Where did he take the gospel? Are there "Samarias" that you are unwilling to go? Are there people that you struggle to step toward in order to share the gospel? Do you believe what happened in Jerusalem and now in Samaria could happen in Wake Forest?
- 3. Read 8:9-24: What was Simon's great sin? What are the great warnings from his life? What is Peter's prescription...what does he say Simon should do?
- 4. Acts 8:25: How does the gospel continue to advance in God's plan? What is your part in the mission of God? How can you live the "extraordinary" life Christ has given you?
- 5. What are the warnings in this passage? And, what is the great hope of every ordinary Christian?