



A Guide for Spiritual Formation

Theme of the month:	Spirit-Empowered Leadership
Text for the Week:	Acts 8:1-24
Message for the Week:	Engaging the Real World
Theme for the Week:	Leaders in the church need to model the mission of God

Week 18

Opening:

What is one low (a bad thing) and one high (a good thing) that happened to you this past week? Write them down and take turns sharing them with the others in your group.

Where have you seen the work of the Holy Spirit in your life this past week?

When and how has God forced you out of your comfort zone? How did you grow spiritually from this experience?

Preparation:

Spend 1-2 minutes in silence with God to center and prepare yourself for your time with God today.

Read:

Read [Acts 8:1-24](#) out loud.

What words, phrases, or ideas grabbed your attention and heart in these verses?

Write them down below and/or share them those who are with you.

Respond / Reflect:

Share the last time you talked with someone about Jesus.

How would you define persecution? Have you experienced any persecution for your faith?

The mission of the early Church was to talk about Jesus, transform lives (make disciples) and build His Kingdom. How are you engaged in this mission? How do you see Covenant Church engaged in this mission?

When you get to heaven, what stories will you tell about how you gave (lived) your life for Jesus?

Who do you know that models a commitment to (i.e., being fully devoted to), courage for (i.e., serving in spite of the sacrifice), and the character (i.e., living the truth) of Jesus?

“Try It!”

Have you taken the spiritual gift survey yet? If not, click here: <https://form.jotform.us/71223564145148>

Once you have taken the survey, see how many ways you can put into action one of your spiritual gifts this week.

Prayer:

Spend time in prayer regarding the things God revealed and that you discerned in your time with God today.

Also, spend time in prayer with/for the other people who are with you...pray this prayer.

Lord, as we focus this month on the theme of Spirit empowered leadership, we pray for an outpouring of your Holy Spirit. Come, Holy Spirit.

We pray Holy Spirit that You will reveal Christ to us. Come, Holy Spirit.

We pray Holy Spirit that you will shape us in the character of Christ. Come, Holy Spirit.

We pray Holy Spirit that will equip us for the mission of Christ. Come, Holy Spirit.

We pray Holy Spirit that you will form us by the early church's rule of life; devotion to the Apostle's Teaching, to the fellowship, the breaking of bread, and prayer. In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, AMEN.

Missional Practice for the Month:

Pray for the leaders at our church, at your school, at your place of work, and in our community. Pray that they would be filled with the Spirit and be wise and discerning. Sometime this month, call or send a card to some of them to encourage and support them.