

**RELIGIOUS FAKERY 2: A THREAT TO WORSHIP (ACTS 8:9-24)**

**Small group questions**

- What do you think of when you hear the word “worship”? What does true, biblical worship look like in your life?
- In this passage, Simon “believes, is baptized, and continues” with Philip (v. 13). He then goes on to offer the apostles money to receive the Holy Spirit (v. 19), and Peter says he is in the “gall of bitterness and the bond of iniquity” (v. 23). How does Simon’s walk reflect your own walk with the Lord?
- The last two weeks we’ve seen both biblical fellowship and now worship threatened by deceitfulness and misplaced heart affections, respectively. Which of these has resonated the most with you? Why?
- Sermon Question: What threatens authentic, biblical worship?



**Family questions**

- What went right and wrong in this story for Simon? What was the ultimate stumbling block for him?
- What does it mean when Peter tells Simon to “repent ... that the intent of your heart may be forgiven you” (v. 22)?
- How can we get distracted in our own lives from true, authentic worship of God? Discuss ways as a family that you can better prepare for worship together on Sundays.

**Weekly prayer**

- Our Men & Women in Uniform
- Gene & Carol Burton, Ethnos Commission, Southwest USA
- Bob Kuhlow, Elder
- Gail Tornow, Bookkeeper
- Global Evangelism Teams
- Apple Valley Church, Forest Junction
- Pray for those who do not yet have a personal relationship with the Lord Jesus. (Colossians 4:2–4)

**Cross References**

Matthew 26:15 (cf. Zechariah 11:15)  
Acts 5:1-11, 36-37  
Acts 13:4-12  
Galatians 3:1  
Ephesians 4:3  
Hebrews 12:15

**Scripture memory**

See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no “root of bitterness” springs up and causes trouble, and by it many become defiled .  
**Hebrews 12:15 (ESV)**

**Worship through Music**

Made Alive

[https://youtu.be/VA\\_GZI4A15A](https://youtu.be/VA_GZI4A15A)

Not In Me

<https://youtu.be/Ja7NMnpaLY4>