

The Scattered Church: *Disaster or Design*

ACT 8:1-8; 1:8, 2:1-12; MT 16:18, 28:19-20

INTRODUCTION:

tornado in the flower garden



☛ The church's unified _____ is to take *the unstoppable gospel* to everyone everywhere.

1. The church in Jerusalem was _____ by great persecution. (8:1-3)

- a. Saul _____ of Stephen's murder. (1)
- b. Saul was _____ the church. (3)
- c. The _____ church was scattered throughout the region. (2)
- d. It would have been *easy* for the early church to _____ their mission.

- What would make us _____ sharing the gospel?
- Have we really considered the _____ of following Jesus?

2. The church continued to preach _____ where they were. (8:4-7)

- a. Saul's mission could not _____ the church's mission.
- b. The scattered church _____ the mission right where they had been planted. (4-5)
- c. The Samaritans were all "paying close _____". (6)
- d. The church was following the missional _____. (7)

- Who are the people within our ripples of _____?
- As they listen to us, are they _____ that they need a relationship with Jesus?

3. In the end, the _____ could not be stopped. (8:8)

- a. The church was spreading the _____ throughout the city.
- b. The church was _____ the process.

- Have we become sedentary, _____, and comfortable?
- Do we really believe that the gospel is an _____, transformative message?
- What would make us _____ sharing the gospel?

CONCLUSION:

Nothing can _____ the power of the gospel. (ROM 1:16)