Embracing Change
Acts 8:1-8

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Introduction:

- Pastoral transition process and purpose
- Personal matters
- Understanding the Book of Acts

Acts 8:1-8 illustrates the reality and positive effect of difficult change.

Consideration of the nature of change and how God accomplishes His purpose through it.

- Biblical illustrations of change for good
- Classic illustration of change for good

Managing change:

I. Processing Change in our Personal Lives

II. Processing Change in the Church

III. Processing God's Purpose for Change

God's purpose in allowing change in our personal lives and the church is to accomplish His purpose through the Gospel.

Discussion Questions based on Acts 8:1-8

1. Share about changes that you have experienced in your own life and how that has affected you.

2. What's your general perspective on how to understand the Book of Acts? In what sense do you think what happened there is *continuous* in our times and experience, and in what sense might it be different?

3. How is this particular story of persecution in Acts 8 similar to what is happening today? To what extent have you personally had to deal with some form of this in your own experience?

4. As you think about changes that occur in our own personal lives, what are some ways we tend to react? What do you think are important factors that enable us to process change positively?

5. One outcome of what happened in Acts 8 is that the Gospel was shared much more widely (Vs 4). How have you noticed that disruptions in your life or the world have been able to accomplish this?

6. How do you think God may want to use this transition time in the life of PTC to affect a similar outcome?

As you conclude, share about personal changes that have occurred in your own life (or in someone else you know) for which prayer is needed for a positive outcome. Pray that God will accomplish His purpose in this time of transition for the church.