



Community Bible Church
Sermon Discussion Questions: Mar 26, 2023
Pastor Ed Newton

Title: Embrace the Eight

Text: Acts 8:26-40

Target: A life ignited by the Holy Spirit will be used by God to point other people to Jesus.

- I. **A Prompting to Pivot:** *“Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” This is a desert place.”* (Vs. 26)
 - A. **To a Place:** *“a desert place.”*
 - B. **For a Person:** *“And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure.”* (Vs. 27a)

Question #1: Stepping out of our comfort zones and into Holy Spirit-inspired conversations can be daunting. To fight the intimidation, it's helpful to reflect on meaningful moments when God used others to reach us in different seasons of life. *Has someone ever stepped into your life with a Holy Spirit-inspired conversation or circumstance? How did that moment impact you? How does it influence your willingness to reach others?*

- II. **A Pursuit of Priority:** *“He had come to Jerusalem to worship”* (Vs. 27b) *and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah.”* (Vs. 28)
 - A. **Sensitivity to the Spirit:** *And the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over and join this chariot.”* (Vs. 29)
 - B. **Outlook on Opportunity:** *“So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?”* (Vs. 30)
 - C. **Importance of Invitation:** *“And he said, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” “And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.”* (Vs.31)

Question #2: In this passage in Acts, it was Phillip's sensitivity to the Spirit that led him to such a powerful ministry opportunity. *What do you think it means to be sensitive to the Spirit? How can we increase this sensitivity in our lives?*

- III. **A Promise of Provision:** *“Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus.”* (Vs. 35)
- A. **Through Sacrifice:** (Vs. 32-23 is an excerpt from Is. 53:7-8)
 - B. **By Substitution:** *“All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.”* (Isaiah 53:6)
 - C. **For Salvation:** *“he bore the sin of many and makes intercession for the transgressors.”* (Isaiah 53:12)

Question #3: *What fears or struggles are keeping you from sharing your faith with others? What truths about God can you meditate on to fight against those fears?*

- IV. **A Profession of Possession:** *“And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, “See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?”* (Vs. 36)
- A. **A Statement:** *“commanded the chariot to stop”* (Vs. 38)
 - B. **A Satisfaction:** *“And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing.”* (Vs. 39)

Question #4: *When you share Jesus with someone, think about what you are inviting them into. How will their life be impacted by having a real relationship with God and finding Spiritual family? Does this realization help with our discouragement in sharing Jesus with others?*

Takeaway: Not your job to save people, but it is our responsibility to share Jesus with people.

Question #5: *Consider two people in your life that do not know Jesus. How can you pray for each of them specifically today? Can you plan a time to purposefully invite them to church or engage them with the Good News of Jesus?* (Additional resources for clearly communicating the Gospel below)

Additional Resource: **Learn how to share your faith clearly and concisely.**

Visit this webpage by using the link below or typing “Sharing Your Faith 101” into Google and clicking on the *BillyGraham.org* website result. Review the “4 Simple Steps” and the “5 Things to Remember” on this webpage.

<https://billygraham.org/story/sharing-your-faith-101/>