



Resources

- Watch or listen to Sunday's sermon: abfboone.com/sermons
- Find Life Group resources: abfboone.org/groups/resources

Acts 8:26-40

[26] 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. [27] 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. He had come to Jerusalem to worship [28] and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. [29] And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and join this chariot." [30] So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" [31] And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. [32] Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter and like a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he opens not his mouth. [33] In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth."

[34] And the eunuch said to Philip, "About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" [35] Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. [36] 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?" [38] And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. [39] 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. [40] But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Sermon Outline:

1. Love People
2. Love the Word
3. Love Obedience

Life Group Leader Notes:





- Pastor Cam mentioned a few missionaries that have been influential to him (John G. Patton, Amy Carmichael, Jim & Elisabeth Elliott). Are there any missionaries that have inspired or influenced you?
- Do you ever feel like there is a distinction between “missionaries” and “normal Christians” in our world? If so, why do you feel that way? Do you see this distinction in the Bible? Or do you see a pattern of God calling ordinary people to do extraordinary things?
- Pastor Cam gave three points of application in the text: love people, love the word, love obedience. How do you see Philip loving people in Acts 6 & 8? Philip stepped up to serve the Greek widows in Jerusalem who were previously being overlooked. Are there any overlooked or needy people in our church or community that you can serve? How can your life group take an interest in forgotten people?
- Philip also displayed love for the Ethiopian eunuch. These two men would not have shared much in common (different cultures, life experiences, economic status, etc.), but Philip was eager to care for him. Pastor Cam made the point that Boone is a unique town with a growing international population. Are you currently engaged with the international community here? Where can you start?
- If a nonbeliever asked you to explain Isaiah 53, would you be able to have a conversation with him or her? How do you think Philip was able to explain this text to the eunuch? (Remember, Philip was not an elder or an apostle; he was a servant that had waited tables and yet he knew exactly what to say). Do you ever read and study the Bible with the goal of strengthening your evangelism?
- Have you ever read the Bible with a nonbeliever? What was that experience like? Are there any nonbelievers in your life that might be interested in reading the Bible with you? (If anyone in your group does want to step out here, make a plan to check in over the next few weeks during your life group gatherings to see how this process is going).
- Philip loved obedience. The apostles commissioned him to wait tables and he did (Acts 6:5-6). God sent him to a desert place and he went (Acts 8:26). Pastor Cam noted that he *ran* to the chariot when he saw it passing by. Are you willing to obey the command of God in your life like Philip? (Even if obedience meant that you needed to wash dishes and go to the desert?) Is obedience a burden to you, or a joy? Are you resisting obedience in your life right now? What would Philip have missed out on if he refused to obey?

