



VIRAL

HOW THE GOSPEL SPREAD THEN AND NOW

Pastor Scott Bosler
Acts 8:26-40

MESSAGE NOTES

Thursday, Oct 16
Sunday, Oct 19

Introduction

notes

Acts 8:6-8

6 When the crowds heard Philip and saw the signs he performed, they all paid close attention to what he said. 7 For with shrieks, impure spirits came out of many, and many who were paralyzed or lame were healed. 8 So there was great joy in that city.

Principle #1 Our part is availability and obedience, God's part is transformation. Saying and praying, "Lord, I'm available to live obediently through any circumstance in which you place me."

Acts 8:26

26 Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Go south to the road—the desert road—that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.”

Acts 8:27-28

27 So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian^[a] eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of the Kandake (which means “queen of the Ethiopians”). This man had gone to Jerusalem to worship, 28 and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the Book of Isaiah the prophet.

Principle # 2 Always begin where people are and begin by asking questions, rather than making statements.

Acts 8:29-31

²⁹ The Spirit told Philip, “Go to that chariot and stay near it.” ³⁰ Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. “Do you understand what you are reading?” Philip asked. ³¹ “How can I,” he said, “unless someone explains it to me?” So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.

Principle # 3 Keep the message centered on Christ

Acts 8:32-35

³² This is the passage of Scripture the eunuch was reading:

“He was led like a sheep to the slaughter,
and as a lamb before its shearer is silent,
so he did not open his mouth.

³³ In his humiliation he was deprived of justice.

Who can speak of his descendants?

For his life was taken from the earth.”

³⁴ The eunuch asked Philip, “Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?” ³⁵ Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus.

Principle # 4 Invite a clear response to the good news

Acts 8: 36-38

³⁶ As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water. What can stand in the way of my being baptized?” ^[37] ³⁸ And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him.

Principle # 5 Trust God with the results

Acts 8:29-40

³⁹ When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord suddenly took Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰ Philip, however, appeared at Azotus and traveled about, preaching the gospel in all the towns until he reached Caesarea.

Seven bold steps to take this week...

1. Pray for a Divine appointment
2. Be interruptible
3. Ask a sincere question
4. Listen well
5. Focus on Jesus
6. Offer a clear invitation to follow Christ
7. Trust God with the results

GROUP DISCUSSION

Viral: How the Gospel Spread Then and Now.

GateWay Church of Visalia, Pastor Lance Ainsworth, Acts 8:26-40

October 16th and 19th, 2025

A Desert Road and An Open Scroll

Getting Better at Sharing Our Faith

Discussion Questions

- 1) Where are you on your spiritual journey?
- 2) Who shared their faith with you and how did they go about it?
- 3) Who has God placed in your journey? A Neighbor? Friend? Co-worker? Classmate? Family member?
- 4) How likely are you to take one or more of the seven bold steps? Which one is the easiest and which one is the most challenging?
- 5) What is your greatest hesitation to sharing your faith with others?
- 6) Since our success metric is faithful obedience and availability, how do you feel about leaving the results up to God?