



PACIFIC
CROSSROADS
CHURCH

July 29, 2018

ACTS

THE SENT CHURCH

Reflections

There are many reasons that inclusion has proved so difficult for most organizations to achieve. Broadly, they tend to stem from strong social norms and the failure to gain support among dominant group members.

- Christine Riordan, Harvard Business Review

God was going to fulfill his plan to spread the good news to “all flesh” even unto the ends of the earth . . . even if it required direct divine intervention in various forms. The human leaders of Christianity in Jerusalem could only try to catch up with the plan of God, which was operating often apart from and quite beyond their control.

- Ben Witherington, The Acts of the Apostles

If we live a holy life before God, broken of our pride and self-will, crying out for grace, then we will be in communion with God. . . . Listening is just one of the things that happens in the course of my soul connecting with God.

- Paul Miller, A Praying Life

Sermon

The Inclusivity of the Sent Church


Paul Kim

'Open Window, Collioure' by Henri Matisse, 1905

'Acts: The Sent Church' logo by Jesse Wu

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Scripture

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.

Events & News

PCC Women: Prayer, August 5

Women of Pacific Crossroads, you're invited to a dedicated time of prayer and fellowship on the first Sunday of the each month. Join us from 10:30 AM - 10:55 AM at SAMOHI or from 6:30 PM - 6:55 PM at St. John's. All are welcome.

Community Group and LOL Leader Retreat, August 17-19

If you're a Community Group or Life on Life Group leader, hit the pause button before the summer ends! Join us for a weekend getaway to the Mt. Gilmore Retreat Center in Malibu as we take a 360° look at what it means to be a leader.

Author and speaker Nancy Ortberg will help us discover how to become more influential in our personal lives, our work, and our ministry. Aspiring leaders are also welcome!

View and sign up for all events on our mobile app, on our website, PacificCrossroads.org/Events, or speak with someone at the 'New Here?' tent.

Ministry Resources

Congregational Care

Our congregational care team is here to care for you if you are in a difficult place. Email pastoralcare@pacificcrossroads.org or call our office at 310.551.0081.

Celebrate Recovery

Join together weekly with others to celebrate God's healing power in our lives. Visit PacificCrossroads.org/CelebrateRecovery.