

Acts 8:26-40 - "How to Witness for Jesus"

"Now an angel of the Lord spoke to Philip, saying, "Arise and go toward the south along the road which goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is desert. So he arose and went. And behold, a man of Ethiopia, a eunuch of great authority under Candace the queen of the Ethiopians, who had charge of all her treasury, and had come to Jerusalem to worship, was returning. And sitting in his chariot, he was reading Isaiah the prophet. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go near and overtake this chariot." So Philip ran to him, and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah, and said, "Do you understand what you are reading?" And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he asked Philip to come up and sit with him. The place in the Scripture which he read was this: "He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; And as a lamb before its shearer is silent, So He opened not His mouth. In His humiliation His justice was taken away, And who will declare His generation? For His life is taken from the earth." So the eunuch answered Philip and said, "I ask you, of whom does the prophet say this, of himself or of some other man?" Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning at this Scripture, preached Jesus to him. Now as they went down the road, they came to some water. And the eunuch said, "See, here is water. What hinders me from being baptized?" Then Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." So he commanded the chariot to stand still. And both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him. Now when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught Philip away, so that the eunuch saw him no more; and he went on his way rejoicing. But Philip was found at Azotus. And passing through, he preached in all the cities till he came to Caesarea."

STEP #1 - Be LISTENING!

"Now an angel of the Lord spoke to Philip, saying, "Arise and go toward the south along the road which goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is desert. So he arose and went. And behold, a man of Ethiopia, a eunuch of great authority under Candace the queen of the Ethiopians, who had charge of all her treasury, and had come to Jerusalem to worship, was returning. And sitting in his chariot, he was reading Isaiah the prophet. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go near and overtake this chariot."

- **Acts 10:19NLT** - "Meanwhile, as Peter was puzzling over the vision, *the Holy Spirit said to him*, "Three men have come looking for you. Get up, go downstairs, and go with them without hesitation. Don't worry, for I have sent them."
- **Acts 13:2NLT** - "One day as these men were worshiping the Lord and fasting, *the Holy Spirit said*, "Appoint Barnabas and Saul for the special work to which I have called them."
- **Acts 21:4NKJV** - "And finding disciples, we stayed there seven days. They *told Paul through the Spirit* not to go up to Jerusalem."

- *Illustration: Hurricane - Joseph & the famine... Flight to US - Ron... the Spirit will speak to us today!*
- ***** WHAT ABOUT YOU?? *****

STEP #2 - Be *INSTRUCTING!*

"So Philip ran to him, and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah, and said, *"Do you understand what you are reading?"* And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he asked *Philip to come up and sit with him*. The place in the Scripture which he read was this: "He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; And as a lamb before its shearer is silent, So He opened not His mouth. In His humiliation His justice was taken away, And who will declare His generation? For His life is taken from the earth." So the eunuch answered Philip and said, "I ask you, of whom does the prophet say this, of himself or of some other man?" Then *Philip opened his mouth, and beginning at this Scripture, preached Jesus to him.*"

• **Matt 28:19-20-** "And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and *make disciples of all the nations*, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, *teaching them* to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen."

• **2 Tim 2:2 -** "...the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be *able to teach others* also."

• **Titus 2:3-5-** "...*teach the older women* to live in a way that honors God. They must not slander others or be heavy drinkers. Instead, they should teach others what is good. These *older women must train the younger women* to love their husbands and their children, to live wisely and be pure, to work in their homes, to do good, and to be submissive to their husbands. Then they will not bring shame on the word of God."

○ *Illustration: A good father trains and instructs his children in many things... spiritually as well!*

- ***** WHAT ABOUT YOU?? *****

STEP #3 - Be *DISCIPLING!*

"Now as they went down the road, they came to some water. And the eunuch said, "See, here is water. What hinders me from being baptized?" Then Philip said, "*If you believe with all your heart, you may.*" And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." So he commanded the chariot to stand still. And both

Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him."

• **1 Tim 1:18 NLT** - "Timothy, my son, *here are my instructions for you*, based on the prophetic words spoken about you earlier. *May they help you fight well* in the Lord's battles."

• **1 Tim 2:1-2 NLT** - "I urge you, first of all, to *pray for all people*. Ask God to *help* them; *intercede* on their behalf, and *give thanks* for them. Pray this way *for kings and all who are in authority* so that we can *live peaceful and quiet lives* marked by godliness and dignity."

• **1 Tim 3:1-5 NLT** - "If someone aspires to be a church leader, he desires an honorable position. So *a church leader must be* a man whose life is above reproach. He must be faithful to his wife. He must exercise self-control, live wisely, and have a good reputation. He must enjoy having guests in his home, and he must be able to teach. He must not be a heavy drinker or be violent. He must be gentle, not quarrelsome, and not love money. He must manage his own family well, having children who respect and obey him. For *if a man cannot manage his own household*, how can he take care of God's church?"

○ **Illustration:** *Pastor Dan disciplined me in numerous ways...*

○ ***** WHAT ABOUT YOU?? *****

STEP #4 - Be GROWING!

"Now when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught Philip away, so that the eunuch saw him no more; and he went on his way rejoicing. But Philip was found at Azotus. And passing through, he preached in all the cities till he came to Caesarea."

• **2 Cor 3:18 NLT** - "...all of us who have had that veil removed can see and reflect the glory of the Lord. And the Lord—who is *the Spirit makes us more and more like Him as we are changed* into His glorious image."

• **1 Tim 4:15 NLT** - "Give your complete attention to these matters. Throw yourself into your tasks *so that everyone will see your progress*."

• **Luke 19:15-17 NLT** - "After he was crowned king, he returned and called in the servants to whom he had given the money. He wanted to find out what their profits were. The first servant reported, 'Master, *I invested your money and made ten times the original amount!*'" "Well done!" the king exclaimed. "You are a good servant. You have been faithful with the little I entrusted to you, so you will be governor of ten cities as your reward."

○ **Illustration:** *In healthy human development, growth takes place...*

○ ***** WHAT ABOUT YOU?? *****