



The Book of Acts:

Holy Spirit Adventures

Passage: Acts 8: 26–40

The Book of Acts – A call to see the Spirit move again and again in every generation

Introduction

Following the mass conversion of many in Samaria, God calls Philip to go south to the desert road between Jerusalem and Gaza.

Pastor Jon points out that God *“who is always a step ahead of all people, even the church acts again starting another new chapter in His holy agenda to reverse Babel, to restore Eden, to continue to bring the kingdom of God on earth which is fully in Heaven!”*

What stands out about this holy agenda and God’s developing work in the early church?

Enjoy the Table Talk video with Pastor Jon [here](#).

Unpacking the Sermon

1. Acts 8: 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.”

Philip obeys God and leaves the thriving ministry in Samaria for the desert wilderness of the Judean foothills to encounter a non-Jewish eunuch. This would change the course of church history.

Would you have the courage to do this? Share an experience where you were asked by God to do something very specific and very outside of your comfort zone.

2. Acts 8:29–30 “The Spirit told Philip, ‘go to that chariot and stay near it...then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah. “Do you understand what you are reading?” he asked.”

Pastor Jon points out that this powerful and influential Ethiopian was a true seeker who humbled himself to ask an unknown wandering man to explain Scripture to him. It is amazing that God’s first gospel contact with the non-Jewish world is an African eunuch. What do you think about God’s choice?

Where else in the Bible does God choose the most unlikely people to do His work?

3. Acts 8: 34–35 – “The eunuch asked Philip, “Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about? Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus.”

The eunuch is reading Isaiah 53:7-8, one of the most important passages in the whole Old Testament. It explains who Jesus is and why He came. Even before the New Testament had been written, Philip had been taught about Jesus the Messiah, the Lamb of God. That's how he could explain this Old Testament prophecy.

Give examples of other connections between the Old and New Testament. How have they increased your knowledge, understanding, and respect for the Word?

4. Acts 8: 36-39 - "As they traveled the eunuch said, "look, here is water. Why shouldn't I be baptized? "

Understanding how much Jesus has done for him, the Ethiopian wants to identify with Christ in baptism. Have you been baptized? If so, share your experience. If not, why not?

APPLICATION -

Pastor Jon points out that we are all disgraced, separated from God, and going our own way. Self-sufficiency and self-confidence is death to our movement. But Jesus says "I am sending you out not in your own power or abilities, but by the power and gifts of the Spirit." What holds you back? How can you grow in obeying the Spirit? Discuss.

Prayer:

Dear Father in Heaven, we thank you for choosing the most unlikely of us to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ. We long to obey you and follow your commandments in our lives. Thank you for calling us to go and make disciples of all nations! Help us to obey like Philip when You ask us to do Kingdom work.

Have questions about the sermon? Email us: groups@sanctuschurch.com