
SERMON NOTES AND SCRIPTURE

Acts 8:26–33 (NIV)

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.” 27 So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian 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. 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.

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.”

Isaiah 53:3–6 (NIV)

3 He was despised and rejected by mankind,
a man of suffering, and familiar with pain.
Like one from whom people hide
their faces
he was despised, and we held him
in low esteem.

4 Surely he took up our pain
and bore our suffering,
yet we considered him punished by God,
stricken by him, and afflicted.

5 But he was pierced for our transgressions,
he was crushed for our iniquities;
the punishment that brought us peace
was on him,
and by his wounds we are healed.

6 We all, like sheep, have gone astray,
each of us has turned to our own way;
and the LORD has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.

Acts 8:34–40 (NIV)

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.

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?” 38 And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him. 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.

Chasing down chariots:

1. Following Jesus means that he may likely do some unexpected things in some unexpected ways.

2. Have your eyes open for the passing chariots God brings into your life.

GROUP DISCUSSION

Take a look at Philip's role in the Ethiopians conversion. How important was his role of obedience in the seemingly small areas? How did God use his obedience to spread the gospel?

Look at the examples pastor Luke shares of the word “go” in Scripture. What does this one little word accomplish?

Philip helped the Ethiopian understand what he was reading. Who are you currently sitting and engaging with as they wrestle through the deeper truths of God's Word?

What are some unexpected things that the Lord has done in your life and how have you seen Him work through them?

Who is in the passing chariots that God has brought into your life, and are you willing to run up to them the same way someone ran up to you?

How can our life group pray for you this week?