



“Divine Appointments”

Pastor Tom Garasha | October 4, 2026

Definition of a Divine Appointment: A Holy Spirit Led Holy Moment

Acts 8:26-40 “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. 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 and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. And the Spirit said to Philip, ‘Go over and join this chariot.’ So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, ‘Do you understand what you are reading?’ And he said, ‘How can I, unless someone guides me?’ And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. 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. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.’ And the eunuch said to Philip, ‘About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?’ Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. 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?’ And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. 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. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.”

I. Availability

Acts 8:27 “And he rose and went.”

A. Willingness To _____

B. What Could Have Been His Response if He Wasn’t Filled With the Holy Spirit?

1. Too _____

2. Too _____

3. Too _____

Acts 8:27-30 “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 and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. And the Spirit said to Philip, ‘Go over and join this chariot.’”

II. Opportunistic

A. Philip Seized the Moment

B. You Can’t Determine A Person’s Need Until You Are Willing to Get _____ to Them

III. Sensitivity (to the Holy Spirit)

A. How Can We Be More Sensitive to the Holy Spirit’s _____

Ephesians 5:18 “And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit”

Galatians 2:20 “I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.”

1. Remember It’s Not About _____, It’s About _____

Philippians 2:3-4 “Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.”

Psalms 46:10 “Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!”

2. Practicing the _____ of the Holy Spirit

IV. Conclusion: The Holy Moment Completed!

Acts 8:35-39 “Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. 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?’ And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. 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.”

A. Results: What Can We Learn About Philip’s Divine Appointment?

1. The eunuch was saved and brought the Gospel to Africa and was one of the first gentile believers

2. Philip didn’t waste any time in sharing the gospel

3. Spirit led holy moments can come in all shapes and sizes



October 4, 2026

BACKGROUND:

God, in His faithfulness and sovereignty, continues to draw people to Himself through divine appointments. Every day, God orchestrates encounters for His purposes and glory. Our responsibility is to remain attentive, available, and obedient when He calls us to act.

The divine appointment between Philip and the Ethiopian eunuch was clearly God's doing, not a matter of chance. In Acts 8:26-40 an angel of the Lord sends Philip to share the gospel with an Ethiopian that just happens to be reading from the book of Isaiah prophesying the coming of Jesus the Messiah or the Christ. God used this encounter to reveal Christ and bring the Ethiopian to faith.

DIGGING DEEPER:

Saul and Ananias (Acts 9:1-18), Peter and Cornelius (Acts 10), and many others experienced divinely orchestrated encounters. Jesus Himself had numerous divine appointments, including His choosing the twelve disciples. There was also Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1-10), Nicodemus (John 3:1-21), and Pontius Pilate (Luke 23), to name just a few.

1. Describe a divine appointment from your life. What was the result of that encounter? Did you find yourself as giving or receiving encouragement from the experience?
2. As you think about your family, workplace, school, and daily routines, where do you see divine appointments taking place?
3. How can you become more aware of the divine appointments around you, and how should you respond to them?

The Bible teaches that divine appointments are purposeful and orchestrated by God. He intentionally places people in one another's paths according to His plans and purposes.

4. What are some possible purposes of a divine appointment?
5. What common goal might many divine appointments share?
6. Read *Ephesians 1:9-10*, *Ephesians 2:10*, and *Romans 8:28-30*. What do these passages teach about God's sovereignty and His work in the lives of His people?

There are many lessons we can learn from Philip's encounter with the Ethiopian eunuch. Consider the following truths and discuss those that stand out to you:

- The gospel is for all people, crossing barriers of race, nationality, culture, and social status.
- People often need biblical instruction to understand God's truth.
- All Scripture ultimately points to Christ.
- Genuine faith requires a personal response.
- Baptism does not save a person but serves as an act of obedience and public profession of faith.
- God uses ordinary believers who are obedient to the Holy Spirit to reach others.
- God often prepares both the messenger and the recipient before a divine appointment occurs.

TAKING IT HOME:

The most significant divine appointment a person can experience is an encounter with Jesus Christ. Often, that moment is the culmination of many previous divine appointments throughout a person's spiritual journey.

Typically, one person plants a seed of truth, another waters it, and others help nurture its growth. Then, in God's perfect timing, that seed bears the fruit of salvation. God uses many people and many encounters to accomplish His redemptive purposes.

7. How can you apply this teaching to your own life?
8. Can you identify a divine appointment God may be placing on your heart right now?
9. How can you prepare yourself spiritually, emotionally, and practically to respond to your next divine appointment?