

Taking the Risk TOGETHER

“Truth **AND** Dare”

August 16, 2020

Rev. Mark Zirkle, Exec. Pastor

Acts 8:26-40 (CSB)

26 An angel of the Lord spoke to Philip: “Get up and go south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” (This is the desert road.) 27 So he got up and went. There was an Ethiopian man, a eunuch and high official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to worship in Jerusalem 28 and was sitting in his chariot on his way home, reading the prophet Isaiah aloud.

29 The Spirit told Philip, “Go and join that chariot.” 30 When Philip ran up to it, he heard him reading the prophet Isaiah, and said, “Do you understand what you’re reading?”

31 “How can I,” he said, “unless someone guides me?” So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.

32 Now the Scripture passage he was reading was this:

He was led like a sheep to the slaughter, and as a lamb is silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. 33 In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who will describe his generation? For his life is taken from the earth.

34 The eunuch said to Philip, “I ask you, who is the prophet saying this about—himself or someone else?” 35 Philip proceeded to tell him the good news about Jesus, beginning with that Scripture. 36 As they were traveling down the road, they came to some water. The eunuch said, “Look, there’s water. What would keep me from being baptized?” 38 So he ordered the chariot to stop, and both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him.

39 When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him any longer but went on his way rejoicing. 40 Philip appeared in Azotus, and he was traveling and preaching the gospel in all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

1. To Dare is to ... GO

26 An angel of the Lord spoke to Philip: “Get up and go south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” (This is the desert road.) 27 So he got up and went.

- Get Up (v26)
- Move Forward (v26)
- Don’t Fear the Unknown (v27)

2. To Dare is to ... JOIN

30 When Philip ran up to it, he heard him reading the prophet Isaiah, and said, “Do you understand what you’re reading?”

- With enthusiasm (v30)
- With acceptance (v30)
- With compassion (v30)

3. To Dare is to ... GUIDE

31 “How can I,” he said, “unless someone guides me?” So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.

- Through personal investment (v31)

35 Philip proceeded to tell him the good news about Jesus, beginning with that Scripture.

- Through the Word (v35)

38 So he ordered the chariot to stop, and both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him.

- Through hands-on ministry (v38)

4. To Dare is to ... GO (*again!*)

First, let’s look at the whole picture of this ministry model:



39 When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him any longer but went on his way rejoicing.

- God has a plan to move you (v39)

40 Philip appeared in Azotus, and he was traveling and preaching the gospel in all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

- God has an assignment ready (v40)

Acts 9 (the conversion of Saul) and Acts 10 (Peter and the conversion of the Gentiles)

- God has other great things in the works (Acts 9-10)