

Southside Baptist Church
Sunday Morning – 8-9-26
Christianity 103 – Message 8 Part 6
Philip responding to the leading of the Lord.

1. Introduction:

a. Taking a look back:

- 1) Philip responding to the leading of the “angel of the Lord.”
 - a) Philip was commanded to “GO,” and he went.
 - b) “Going” requires an understanding of why, preparation for going, and then a follow-through to go.
- 2) Philip is headed toward “a man of Ethiopia.”
 - a) This man is reading Isaiah 53.
 - b) Philip asked him if he understood what he was reading?
- 3) Being alert, attentive, available, and ready is also an exhortation of how we as believers should live these lives the Lord has given us.
- 4) The Eunuch asked Philip who the writer was speaking of.

b. Taking a look ahead:

- 1) Verse 35 – Philip “preached unto him Jesus.”
- 2) Philip began where this man was reading and shared the Gospel with him.

2. The Ethiopian Eunuch is born again. Acts 8:36-39

a. Verse 35 –

- 1) “and began at the same scripture and preached unto him Jesus.”

b. What would this have included?

- 1) Jesus is the man of Isaiah 53.
 - a) Isaiah 53:7 –
 - b) Philip would have helped him see that this was not about Isaiah or Israel but the promised Messiah.
- 2) Jesus is the innocent, suffering Servant.
 - a) Isaiah 53:12 –
 - b) Jesus was the lamb without spot or blemish.
- 3) Jesus’ life and substitutionary death.
 - a) Isaiah 53:8 –
 - b) “cut off out of the land of the living” – speaks of Him being slain.
 - c) “stricken” – speaks of divine chastisement of the suffering Servant.
- 4) Jesus is ALIVE!
 - a) Isaiah 53:10 –
 - b) “he shall prolong his days.” “The Servant, Jesus was resurrected to live forever.” Warren Wiersbe.

c. Verse 36 –

- 1) The call to repent and believe.
- 2) Verse 36 – “what doth hinder me to be baptized.”
 - a) Philip’s message of the Gospel included an exhortation to respond.
- 3) The Gospel is the Good News that demands a response.
 - a) Understanding that Jesus died not for His sins but for the Eunuch’s sins.
 - b) Understanding that Jesus is alive and not in the grave.
- 4) Based on the evidence of the text, their conversation lasted more than a few minutes.

d. Verse 37 –

- 1) Let me clarify something for you related to this verse.

- 2) Notice what Philip does here when the Eunuch asked about baptism.
 - a) "If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest."
 - b) Why do that? Because faith precedes baptism.
 - c) The Eunuch responded, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God."
- e. Verse 38 –
 - 1) In obedience to the Lord, he submits himself to be baptized.
3. What happened next?
 - a. Verse 39 –
 - 1) Philip was "caught" away meaning Philip was snatched or "to catch" away."
 - 2) What about the Eunuch? What happened to him?
 - 3) There are some interesting and encouraging historical accounts of this Eunuch.
 - b. Verse 40 –
 - 1) Philip continues to share the Gospel.
4. Church, let me encourage you from this story.
 - a. Be alert, attentive, available, and ready to respond in immediate obedience to the leading of the Spirit of God in this life the Lord has given you.
 - b. As you go, meet people where they are.
 - 1) Philip came alongside with a simple question.
 - c. Point them to Jesus in the Word.
 - 1) Romans 10:17 –
 - d. The Gospel is for the world because Jesus died for the world.
 - 1) Philip engaged with a Eunuch who was a Gentile.
 - e. God is at work in ways we do not always see.
 - 1) Philip would not have seen this had he not been obedient to "GO."
 - f. The Gospel is God's word we get to participate in.
 - 1) We have the privilege to plant and water. God gives the increase.
5. The Lord's table.