

EYES FOR EXPANSION

Pastor Chad Gilligan | February 20, 2022

I. INTRODUCTION TO A NEW SEASON

- *New Seasons Emerge from Fresh Encounters with the Holy Spirit*

*Heavenly Father
In This New Season
May Your Holy Spirit
Bring To Me...
Eyes For Expansion*

II. HOW TO BE USED BY GOD IN 8 SIMPLE STEPS

Step 1 — Put Your Faith in Jesus

Acts 6:3 Brothers and sisters, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them

- **When you live for Jesus, Jesus can use your life.**

Step 2 — Keep Putting Your Faith in Jesus

Acts 8:4 Those who had been scattered preached the word wherever they went.

Acts 8:1 On that day a great persecution broke out against the church in Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were scattered throughout Judea and Samaria.

Acts 8:5 Philip went down to a city in Samaria and proclaimed the Messiah there.

- **Stay faithful in the tough times.**
- **Stay faithful in the tough places.**
- **Stay faithful with tough people.**

Mark 1:9-11 At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

Mark 1:12-13 At once the Spirit sent him out into the wilderness, and he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him.

- **In God’s school, you can expect the course work may get tougher when you advance a grade.**
- **We may have to take our eyes off of ourselves and see what God is doing.**
- **God’s idea of blessing might not be the same as ours.**

Step 3 — Trust God to do His Work Through You

Acts 8:6-8 When the crowds heard Philip and saw the signs he performed, they all paid close attention to what he said. For with shrieks, impure spirits came out of many, and many who were paralyzed or lame were healed. So there was great joy in that city.

Acts 8:12 But when they believed Philip as he proclaimed the good news of the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.

- **God does God’s work through God’s people by the power of God’s Holy Spirit.**

Step 4 — Continue to Keep Putting Your Faith in Jesus

Acts 8:26-27 Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Go south to the road—the desert road—that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” 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,

- **Be faithful to do what God has for you to do.**
- **Will you be willing to trust God when He asks you to do something for Him?**

Step 5 — Obey the Leading of the Spirit

Acts 8:28-29 and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the Book of Isaiah the prophet. The Spirit told Philip, “Go to that chariot and stay near it.”

How does the Spirit lead us?

- **The Holy Spirit leads us by His Word.**
- **The Holy Spirit leads us by His Direction.**
- **The Holy Spirit leads us by His Voice.**

VERSE OF THE WEEK

Ephesians 1:17 I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better.

Step 6 — Don't Dismiss Divine Appointments

Acts 8:30-31 Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. "Do you understand what you are reading?" Philip asked. "How can I," he said, "unless someone explains it to me?" So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.

- **Divine appointments are not coincidental. Divine appointments are providential.**

Step 7 — Always Remember the Good News About Jesus

Acts 8:32-35 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. In his humiliation he was deprived of justice. Who can speak of his descendants? For his life was taken from the earth." The eunuch asked Philip, "Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?" Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus.

- **People are looking for good news that can only be found in Jesus.**

Step 8 — Don't Stop Continuing to Keep Putting Your Faith in Jesus

Acts 8:39-40 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. Philip, however, appeared at Azotus and traveled about, preaching the gospel in all the towns until he reached Caesarea.

- **It is really this simple: When you allow God to place you in the right place at the right time, He will use you for His glory and for your blessing.**

III. COMMUNION

1 Corinthians 11:27-29 So then, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. Everyone ought to examine themselves before they eat of the bread and drink from the cup. For those who eat and drink without discerning the body of Christ eat and drink judgment on themselves.

1 Corinthians 11:23-24 For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me."

1 Corinthians 11:25-26 In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.” For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.