

FOOD TIME: (30-45 minutes) – Remember to give some direction for this time.

MEETING TIME: (45 minutes)

The work of the Lord is prevalent in the book of Acts, and we see it here in chapter 8. It starts with the description of Saul persecuting the church. But even through that persecution of the church, we see people still preaching Christ in different areas and chapter 8 shows that Simon is preaching to the Samaritans and many people are paying attention. The chapter closes looking at another interaction with Philip and he comes across a man from Ethiopia. He was a eunuch, or someone who was in a powerful position to a royal figure. In this sense, it is for the queen of the Ethiopians. But Philip is called by the Lord to speak to this man who is reading the book of Isaiah. A man in a foreign land who is reading the word of God and not understanding. Imagine Philip and the nerves he must have had. But also pay attention to his obedience to God and his confidence in what the Lord was telling him to do.

READ Acts 8:30-38

30 So Philip ran to him and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah, and said, "Do you understand what you are reading?" **31** And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he asked Philip to come up and sit with him. **32** The place in the Scripture in which he read was this: "He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and as a lamb before its shearer silent, so He opened not His mouth. **33** In His humiliation His justice was taken away, and who will declare His generation? For His life is taken from the earth." **34** So the eunuch answered Philip and said, "I ask you, of whom does the prophet say this, of himself or of some other man?" **35** Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning at this Scripture, preached Jesus to him. **36** Now as they went down the road, they came across some water. And the eunuch said, "See, here is water. What hinders me from being baptized?" **37** The Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." **38** So he commanded the chariot to stand still. And both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him.

FACILITATE Discussion Questions

1. What do you think was going on in Philip's mind as he went to talk to the eunuch?
2. Has there been a Philip moment in your life, where you did not expect to share the Gospel and then did? Explain
3. Regarding the eunuch, what do you think he was experiencing as Philip preached the name of Jesus?
4. The eunuch is moved by the Spirit and immediately gets baptized; have you experienced that feeling of answering God's calling? How?
5. How can we honor and glorify God in everything that we do, just as both Philip and the eunuch did?

PRAY- Take the last 10 minutes to pray about the needs of the group.

APPLICATION- Having a moment like this is such a powerful piece of Scripture. Philip receives a call to share the Gospel and he does, and the eunuch responds by accepting Jesus and getting baptized. The application comes in both of their actions. How can you be more like Philip and be bold to share the word of God, and how can you be like the eunuch, and not be afraid to take that step of faith in God? As you encounter things in the next few weeks, think about how you can honor God in such a way that others will recognize it. And when you see the Lord at work, how can you stop to enjoy being in His presence in the moment and glorify Him for what He is doing in our lives and in the lives of others.