

Community Group Discussion Guide

Week of January 19, 2014

<u>This Week's Focus:</u> God in His sovereignty appoints opportunities for the gospel to go forth; we need to be ready to seize those opportunities.

This Week's Text: Acts 8:26-40

"This Ethiopian represents many people today who are religious, read the Scriptures, and seek the truth, yet do not have saving faith in Jesus Christ. They are sincere, but they are lost! They need someone to show them the way." Warren Wiersbe

Related Texts: Isaiah 53, 2 Timothy 4:1-5, 1 Peter 3:13-17

Observations and Questions for Discussion:

- How has God spoken to you regarding the sermon and/or text?
- From John MacArthur's Bible Study on Acts:
 - o How did Philip's encounter with the Ethiopian eunuch come about?
 - o What was Philip's response?
 - o What does this passage demonstrate about Spirit-led evangelism?
- Philip was called away from a very fruitful ministry in Samaria to witness to one single individual.
 What does this teach us about our plans versus God's plans?
 - o How do you honestly think you would respond in such a situation?
- When asked to explain the passage from Isaiah, Philip is ready and prepared to help the
 eunuch understand, and he is able to point him to Jesus. Do you feel like you know the Bible
 well enough to share with others on the fly as Philip did?
 - o What steps can you take to be better prepared?
- The eunuch was seeking truth but it wasn't until Philip explained the good news of Jesus to him that he "got it". Think about the people you encounter in your life. Are there truth-seekers like this eunuch that you can "gospelize" to?

- What can we learn from Philip's godly example (in regards to his character and willingness to serve)?
 - Why is it important that our character back up our words, especially when making disciples?

Gospel Celebration:

- In Christ we have been brought out of darkness and bondage to sin and into His marvelous light! Rejoice in that, and share it with others.
- The love of Christ extends through all racial barriers; everyone is welcome at the foot of the cross!

Prayer Focus:

- Pray for those you know specifically are lost but are seeking truth.
- Pray for the Holy Spirit to work in you, to give you a boldness and willingness to share the gospel.

Next Week's Text: Acts 9:1-19