

SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDE

NOV. 30/DEC. 1 - ACTS 8 - THE EVANGELIST PHILIP & THE ETHIOPIAN EUNUCH

OPENING QUESTION

Can you remember a situation where something happened to you or your family that was completely unexpected? What was it?

READ TOGETHER

Acts 8:1, 8:26-40

BIG IDEA

God often works in ways we never expect.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What would it have felt like to be one of the Apostles when all of a sudden your ministry turned a different direction? Do you think they understood what was going on?
2. Imagine yourself sitting around in a room with the other Jesus followers during this time of persecution. What would be a typical plan of action? What specifically did they do as a response to the difficulties?
3. How did the Holy Spirit speak; was there a particular method(s) God used to lead them? Do you think it surprised them? Should it have?
4. Was it a risk for Philip to obey? When he did obey, what becomes clear in the story about where the Ethiopian was at?
5. Read John 15:26, and John 16:14. What does Jesus say about the Holy Spirit? To whom will the Holy Spirit always direct us? Why do you think that is?
6. List a few ways you might be able to share the message of Jesus with someone. How many things on the list don't include much direct conversation about Jesus?
7. What are some practical examples of obedience to God speaking? Can you think of a time when you obeyed when God presented something unexpectedly? Share what happened.
8. Think back to when you became a follower of Jesus. How did you feel? What were some of the things that changed in your life?

CHALLENGE

This week, I commit to leave room for God to speak to me unexpectedly.

PRAYER

Pray that God will use you boldly in the place He has given you to serve (home, work, etc.). Pray that as a group He would give you opportunities to share what He has done for you in practical, tangible ways.

NEXT STEP

Recommended reading: "In His Steps" by Charles Sheldon; "The Practice of the Presence of God" by Brother Lawrence.

BECOMING
PART OF THE
RIPPLE
EFFECT

