

A Divine Appointment

August 20, 2006

Acts 8.1-8, 26-40

The story of Philip's witness to the Ethiopian eunuch is a story of a divine appointment — of a seized opportunity to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. It's the story of how one man caught the chariot of opportunity, and led another man to Christ. This story gives some keen insight to the necessary elements of a conversion experience.

You Need Someone Who Is Searching

*"So he [Philip] started out, and on his way he met an **Ethiopian eunuch**, an important official in charge of all the treasury of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians. **This man had gone to Jerusalem to worship**, and on his way home was sitting in his chariot **reading the book of Isaiah the prophet.**" Acts 8.27-28*

"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." Romans 3.23

You Need Someone Who Is Willing To Share

*"**Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip**, 'Go south to the road--the desert road--that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.'" Acts 8.26*

*"**So he started out**, and on his way he met an Ethiopian eunuch." Acts 8.27*

*"**The Spirit told Philip**, 'Go to that chariot and stay near it.'" Acts 8.29*

*"Then **Philip ran up to the chariot** and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. '**Do you understand what you are reading?**' Philip asked." Acts 8.30*

"How can I,' he said, 'unless someone explains it to me?' So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him." Acts 8.31

You Need To Have Someone with Some Answers

"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work." 2 Timothy 3.16-17

*"He was oppressed and afflicted,
yet he did not open his mouth;
he was led like a lamb to the slaughter,
and as a sheep before her shearers is silent,
so he did not open his mouth.*

***By oppression and judgment he was taken away.**
And who can speak of his descendants?
For he was cut off from the land of the living;
for the transgression of my people he was stricken." Isaiah 53.7-8*

Finally, God Needs to Work

"As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water. Why shouldn't I be baptized?" Acts 8.36

"For with the heart man believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation." Romans 10.10

"And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him." Acts 10.38