

**Series "God At Work" Book Of Acts**  
**"God, Please Use Me"**  
**Acts 8:26-40**  
**Study-15**

The only person in the Bible who is called an "Evangelist." **Acts 21:8-9**  
This man's fruitful life is recorded starting in **Acts 6:1-7; Acts 8:4-40**

I want us to look at Philip as a person, **"Who Is Open To God."**  
Philip's **Guidance from God and His Obedience to God.**

**Thought Of Our Passage:** God Desires To Use Believers Who Will Listen For His Voice, And Obey, Sharing The Gospel.

- 1. Verses 26-29 Open To God's Voice**
- 2. Verses 30-31 Open To Serve Others**
- 3. Verses 32-40 Open To Preach The Gospel**

**1. Verses 26-29 Open To God's Voice:**

**Acts 8:26 Philip** was one of the first lay helpers (7 Chosen) of the early church. (**Acts 6:5**), called the evangelist, **Acts 21:8**. Philip was probably a Greek-speaking Jew. Caesarea is where Philip made his home. We find him there 20 years **later**.

**Philip Was Sensitive To The Voice of God: - angel of the Lord spoke to Philip saying,** - God has many avenues by which to speak to us, here it is through an angel.

We saw angels in **Acts 1:11** at the ascension and in **Acts 5:19**, in the apostles' deliverance from prison. **Hebrews 1:14**

**"Get up and go south to the road that descends from Jerusalem to Gaza."** This was 80 miles south of where he was.

**What is the context of God's command to Philip?**

**Acts 8:1 scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria.**

**Acts 8-12 Witness to Judea and Samaria - and in all Judea and Samaria, Describe the "Period of Transition."**

**Acts 8:4-5 Philip went down to the city of Samaria - We see God leading Philip to reach out to the lost!**

**Acts 8:6** The crowds with one accord were giving attention to what was said by Philip,

**Acts 8:7** Philip discovered the Holy Spirit added spiritual gifts, signs, healings, **exorcism** of demons, and being a gifted evangelist.

**Acts 8:8** And there was much rejoicing in that city. Jesus comes to a man's heart

**Acts 8:12**

**Acts 8:26** Leave the crowds! **Gaza** - This was 80 miles southwest of the city of Samaria.

**This does not make sense from a human standpoint. Isaiah 55:8**

**Acts 8:27 Philip's Obedience To The Lord: So he got up and went;** Obedience is a must in serving God.

**He was to leave the city and the crowds to go into the desert and minister to one man!**

**Abraham Obeyed God: Genesis 22:3.** He did not understand

**there was (and behold,) an Ethiopian eunuch,** - Luke is revealing *God's accurate timing for a holy hook-up, two persons that God wanted to get together.*

**He Was Probably A Gentile: Ethiopian eunuch** — most believe he was a Gentile who had been converted to Judaism. North-Eastern Africa

**The Gospel Is For All Men: Galatians 3:28**

**High Ranking Official: a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure;** He was "*Secretary of the Treasury.*"

**The Gospel Is For All Humanity:** From the gutter to the government.

**He was a Religious Man:** (The religious need the gospel), **and he had come to Jerusalem to worship.** A proselyte to Judaism.

**Acts 8:28 He Was Open To God: reading the prophet Isaiah.** A prepared subject!

**This man has not found Jesus but has found the Scriptures.**  
**John 5:39**

**Acts 8:29 Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go up and join this chariot."** Notice that it is the Holy Spirit speaking.

## **2. Verses 30-31 Open To Serve Others:**

**Acts 8:30 Philip Was Eager to Obey and Share God: Philip ran up, Isaiah 6:8**

**Philip Takes The Direct Approach To Witness: "Do you understand what you are reading?"** Good question?

**Acts 8:31 The Man Was Humble And Honest: "Well, how could I, unless someone guides me?"**

**Job 11:7; Romans 10:17**

**Official Was Teachable: And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.**

**Isaiah 53:7-8** is the passage. **The Suffering Servant.**

## **3. Verses 32-40 Open To Preach The Gospel:**

**Acts 8:32-34**

**Philip's Reliance Upon The Scriptures: Acts 8:35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning from this Scripture, he preached Jesus to him.**

**1 Peter 3:15; Matthew 7:6**

**Four Actions of Philip That We Can Learn From.**

**1. Philip Opened His Mouth - Then Philip opened his mouth, Psalm 107:2**

**2. Philip Begins - and beginning**

**3. Philip Began In The Scripture - from this Scripture - He took the passage, then turned it towards Jesus.**

**4. Philip Preached Jesus Christ - he preached Jesus to him. He took him through the life, death/burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.**

**Acts 8:36 How did the official know about water baptism?** Philip no doubt shared about repentance, and faith towards God, which is believing in Jesus Christ, **Matthew 28:19-20**

Water baptism means commitment. You will identify with Jesus Christ.

**Acts 8:37 Philip Seeks A Decision: "If you believe with all your heart, you may."** Baptism follows conversion.

**And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God."**

**Acts 8:38 and he baptized him.**

**Acts 8:39 the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away;** The word **snatched** – Greek word *Harpazo*, Latin word *Rapture* "caught up, taken by force" used **1 times** in the New Testament (NT).

**Acts 8:40** Azotus, is the Greek name for the ancient **Jewish** city of Ashdod, which is 20 miles north of Gaza.

**until he came to Caesarea.** This is where Philip made his home. We find him there 20 years later. **Acts 21:8-9**

### **Application:**

- 1.** We Must Daily Yield to The Holy Spirit's Guidance: The Holy Spirit Leads In So Many Ways: Word, Prayer, People, Circumstances.
- 2.** We Must Proclaim The All-Inclusive Gospel: God Loves All People, He Died For All People, The Gospel Is The Only Way Of Salvation, Death, Burial, And Resurrection. **Mark 16:15**
- 3.** When We Love God, We Will Also Love People And Want Them To Experience God's Salvation And His Love.