



OPEN

This week we are going to examine how when Jesus changes lives it is not only for the individual but others. The change that Christ does *in us* is also meant to be done *through us* as we share Jesus with others. As we enter a relationship with Jesus we get caught up in the mission of God to rescue and redeem the nations of the world. Sharing Jesus with others can be challenging, but we are going to examine how Philip shares Jesus with an Ethiopian Eunuch in Acts 8. As we do we are going to see how effective sharing begins with **hearing from the Spirit, finding common ground, doing life with people, and is based on God's transforming word.**

REFLECT

- God calls Philip to leave a successful ministry among the Samaritans (8:5-8, 12,14) so others can hear the gospel as well. Have you ever felt God call you away from something good to something new? How did you respond?
- Philip has a unique ministry to those on the "outside" of Judaism and temple life (Samaritans were rivals of Jews and rejected the Jerusalem temple and the Ethiopian would not be allowed in the temple as a non-Jew). Who are the "outsiders" that you feel that God has called you to share him with?
- Philip's ministry is Spirit-led (8:26,29,39). How have you responded when you felt the Spirit leading you?

DISCUSS

- Philip goes from serving in the meals ministry (6:1-6) to becoming Philip "the evangelist" (21:8) because of his faithful obedience to the leading of the Spirit. What is one way God has worked through you to bless others? What is one area of ministry you struggle to partner with God in?
- Philip gets caught up in the outward flow of God's mission to reach others through his church. Author Christopher Wright describes it this way: **"God's mission, through God's people, in their engagement with God's world for the sake of the whole of God's creation."**
- What do you think of that quote? What excites you about partnering with God's mission? What challenges you about this?

APPLY

- Our salvation was never intended for us alone. How does the idea that God saved you not just for yourself but for himself and his mission impact your view of salvation?
- In Acts 8 we learn that Philip is an effective evangelist who is (1)Spirit-led, (2)finds common ground, (3)does life with others, and who (4)shares the gospel through God's word. What do you learn from his approach to sharing Jesus? Which of these four challenge you the most?
- Who in your life right now do you feel God directing you to share Jesus with? How can you be more intentional about that conversation? What might be keeping you from that conversation?

PRAY

- Pray that God would allow the change he has done in you to be shared through you to others.
- What stands in the way of you sharing Jesus? Pray that God would give you courage and strength this week.
- Who in your life could you share Jesus with? Pray for them.