

Story Time - Read the story to the children
Lesson 251: PHILIP AND THE ETHIOPIAN
ACTS 8:26-40

An angel of the Lord spoke to Philip, one of the disciples. The angel said, "Get ready and go south on the road that leads down to Gaza from Jerusalem--the road that goes through the desert." So Philip got ready and went. On the road he saw a man from Ethiopia. He was a eunuch and an important official in the service of Candace, the queen of the Ethiopians. He was responsible for taking care of all her money. This man had gone to Jerusalem to worship. Now he was on his way home. He was sitting in his chariot reading from the book of Isaiah the prophet. The Spirit said to Philip, "Go to that chariot and stay near it." So he went toward the chariot, and he heard the man reading from Isaiah the prophet. Philip asked him, "Do you understand what you are reading?" The man answered, "How can I understand? I need someone to explain it to me." Then he invited Philip to climb in and sit with him. The part of the Scriptures that he was reading was this: "He was like a sheep being led to the butcher. He was like a lamb that makes no sound as its wool is being cut off. He said nothing. He was shamed, and all his rights were taken away. His life on earth has ended. So there will be no story about his descendants." The official said to Philip, "Please, tell me, who is the prophet talking about? Is he talking about himself or about someone else?" Philip began to speak. He started with this same Scripture and told the man the Good News about Jesus. While they were traveling down the road, they came to some water. The official said, "Look, here is water! What is stopping me from being baptized?" Then the official ordered the chariot to stop. Both Philip and the official went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord took Philip away; the official never saw him again. The official continued on his way home rejoicing. But Philip appeared in a city called Azotus. He was going to the city of Caesarea. He told people the Good News in all the towns on the way from Azotus to Caesarea.

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"And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord took Philip away, and the eunuch didn't see him any more: and he went on his way rejoicing." **ACTS 8:39**

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MEMORY VERSE:

"Now when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught Philip away and that eunuch saw him no more" **ACTS 8:39**

Review Questions

True or False

1. An angel of the Lord spoke to Philip and said, "Get up and go toward the south along the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza."
2. So Philip did not get up and go, because he was busy.
3. Philip came across a man from Ethiopia, a eunuch of great authority under Candace the queen of the Ethiopians.
4. The Ethiopian was sitting in his chariot reading the Ten Commandments.
5. The Ethiopian was reading from the book of Isaiah the prophet.
6. The Spirit told Philip to go to the chariot and stay near it.

Questions

1. Philip stayed near the chariot and heard the Ethiopian reading from the book of Isaiah. What did he ask the Ethiopian?
2. When Philip asked the Ethiopian if he understood what he was reading, what did the Ethiopian say?
3. Did Philip explain the scripture to the Ethiopian? What Good News did he tell him? (about.....Jesus!)
4. When they were traveling and saw some water, what did the Ethiopian say?
5. What happened to Philip after he baptized the Ethiopian?
6. Did the Ethiopian ever see Philip again?

Lesson 251 Activity

Scrolls

Provide a long piece of paper for each student. Have your students make scrolls with Isaiah 53:7-8 written in it (you can use the pattern provided or have them write on a blank piece of copier paper). Roll them up and tie them with a red ribbon.

Explain to your class how fortunate we are to have the word of God. In Bible times, paper was a scarce commodity. We have so many copies of God's Word at our disposal; we should take full advantage of them.

PRAYER

Lead the children in a prayer of commitment to share with others the love of Jesus Christ. If there are any children who have not yet responded to the gospel, give them an opportunity to do so.

HE WAS OPPRESSED AND HE
WAS AFFLICTED YET HE OPENED
NOT HIS MOUTH HE IS
BROUGHT AS A LAMB TO THE
SLAUGHTER AND AS A SHEEP
BEFORE ITS SHEARERS IS DUMB
SO HE OPENED NOT HIS MOUTH
HE WAS TAKEN FROM PRISON
AND FROM JUDGMENT AND WHO
SHALL DECLARE HIS GENERA
TION FOR HE WAS CUT OFF OUT
OF THE LAND OF THE LIVING
FOR THE TRANSGRESSION OF MY
PEOPLE HE WAS STRICKEN

Isaiah 53:7-8