

The Ethiopian Eunuch

Acts 8:26-40

26 Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Go south to the road--the desert road-- that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." 27 So he 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, 28 and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the book of Isaiah the prophet. 29 The Spirit told Philip, "Go to that chariot and stay near it."

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

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

32 The eunuch was reading this passage of Scripture: "He was led like a sheep to the slaughter, and as a lamb before the shearer is silent, so he did not open his mouth. 33 In his humiliation he was deprived of justice. Who can speak of his descendants? For his life was taken from the earth."

34 The eunuch asked Philip, "Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?" 35 Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus.

36 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?" 37 Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he replied, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." 38 And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him. 39 When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord suddenly took Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing. 40 Philip, however, appeared at Azotus and traveled about, preaching the gospel in all the towns until he reached Caesarea.

Isaiah 56:3-5

3 Let no foreigner who has bound himself to the Lord say, "The Lord will surely exclude me from his people." And let not any eunuch complain, "I am only a dry tree."

4 For this is what the Lord says: "To the eunuchs who keep my Sabbaths, who choose what pleases me and hold fast to my covenant- 5 to them I will give within my temple and its walls a memorial and a name better than sons and daughters; I will give them an everlasting name that will not be cut off."

Message notes:

God uses _____ to get His truth across.

When you come to faith in Christ, God says, I am going to give you a _____ that is better than a son or daughter.

God doesn't leave us as _____.

The glory of God's _____ overshadows all of our brokenness.

God isn't just the God of Israel, He's the God of the _____.

Additional notes:

Discussion Questions:

Why does God use regular people to share His Word with others?

Why doesn't God require people to clean up their lives before they come to Him?

How has God used regular people in your life to help you come to know Him?

What does it mean to know that God gives you a new name?

How does God's grace overshadow our brokenness?

Why is it important that God is the God of the nations, not just Israel? How does it make you feel to know this?

Ministry Time Questions:

Does anyone struggle with fear over speaking to others about God's grace?

Are you struggling against the lies of the enemy that you are condemned to live under the name of your failures?