

Missionaries

Lesson -10 Philip as Missionary

Memory Verse Hand out Scriptures to read

Acts 1:8 (NKJV) *“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”*

The Great Commission Statements

Matthew 28:18–20 (NKJV) *And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Amen.*

***Mark 16:15–16** (NKJV) *And He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. ¹⁶ He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.*

Luke 24:46–48 (NKJV) *Then He said to them, “Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. And you are witnesses of these things.”*

John 20:21–22 (NKJV) *So Jesus said to them again, “Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.” ²² And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit.”*

Philip the Evangelist

Philip - From the Greek name Φίλιππος (Philippos) which means "friend of horses", composed of the elements φίλος (philos) "friend, lover" and ἵππος (hippos) "horse". This was the name of five kings of Macedon, including Philip II the father of Alexander the Great.

The first, Philip of Bethsaida, was an Apostle who was instrumental in bringing Nathanael to Jesus (John 1:43-46). Later he brought Greeks to Jesus (John 12:20-21). John 1:44 (ESV) *Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter.*

The second Philip was the evangelist in Acts 21:8 to distinguish him from Philip the disciple. He first appeared in the Jerusalem church as a table waiter (Acts 6:2-5) who turned evangelist and missionary (Acts 8:12). His missionary service, extending over twenty years.

Acts 21:7–8 (NKJV) *On the next day we who were Paul’s companions departed and came to Caesarea, and entered the house of Philip the evangelist, who was one of the seven, and stayed with him.*

Acts 8:1 *And at that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judaea and Samaria, except the apostles.*

Acts 8:14–15 *Now when the apostles who were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost:*

It was the violent persecution of Saul the Pharisee that had scattered the church at Jerusalem, and destroyed the effectiveness of the organization of the seven deacons. The flight from Jerusalem had led Philip to change his manner of labor, and resulted in his pursuing the same calling to which Paul gave his life. Precious hours were these that Paul and Philip spent in each other’s society; thrilling were the memories that they recalled of the days when the light which had shone upon the face of Stephen upturned to Heaven as he suffered martyrdom flashed in its glory upon Saul the persecutor, bringing him, a helpless suppliant, to the feet of Jesus.—Ellen G. White, *Sketches From the Life of Paul*, p. 204.

2 Corinthians 4:17–18 (NKJV) *For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.*

Waiting on Tables

Acts 2:43–47 (NKJV) *Then fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles. ⁴⁴ Now all who believed were together, and had all things in common, ⁴⁵ and sold their possessions and goods, and divided them among all, as anyone had need. ⁴⁶ So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, ⁴⁷ praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.*

***Acts 4:34–35** (NKJV) *Nor was there anyone among them who lacked; for all who were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the proceeds of the things that were sold, and laid them at the apostles’ feet; and they distributed to each as anyone had need.*

Acts 6:1–7 (NKJV) Now in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplying, there arose a complaint against the Hebrews by the Hellenists, because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. ² Then the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said, “It is not desirable that we should leave the word of God and serve tables. ³ Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business; ⁴ but we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word.” ⁵ And the saying pleased the whole multitude. And they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, and Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas, a proselyte from Antioch, ⁶ whom they set before the apostles; and when they had prayed, they laid hands on them. ⁷ Then the word of God spread, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith.

Philip in Samaria

The city which was formerly called Samaria, but now Sebaste; it had been destroyed by Hyrcanus, and was rebuilt by Herod; and called by him, in honor of Augustus, by the name of Sebaste.

Acts 8:5–8 (NKJV) Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria and preached Christ to them. ⁶ And the multitudes with one accord heeded the things spoken by Philip, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did. ⁷ For unclean spirits, crying with a loud voice, came out of many who were possessed; and many who were paralyzed and lame were healed. ⁸ And there was great joy in that city.

Acts 8:9 (NKJV) But there was a certain man called Simon, who previously **practiced sorcery** in the city and astonished the people of Samaria, claiming that he was someone great,

***Deuteronomy 18:10** (NKJV) There shall not be found among you anyone who makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire, or one who practices witchcraft, or a soothsayer, or one who interprets omens, or a sorcerer,

Galatians 5:19–21 (NKJV) Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, ²¹ envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

2 Kings 9:22 (ESV) And when Joram saw Jehu, he said, “Is it peace, Jehu?” He answered, “What peace can there be, so long as the whorings and the sorceries of your mother Jezebel are so many?”

Revelation 18:23 The light of a lamp shall not shine in you anymore, and the voice of bridegroom and bride shall not be heard in you anymore. For your merchants were the great men of the earth, for by your sorcery all the nations were deceived.

With the Ethiopian

Acts 8:26 Now an angel of the Lord spoke to Philip, saying, “Arise and go toward the south along the road which goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” This is desert. **50 miles** “Angel of the Lord” found 12 times in NT **Arise and go found 11 times so he arose and went.**

The supernatural call may well have come in an angelic vision.

Philip does not ask why or what but he goes. The road which he is to take is marked out; but what he is to do in that road, or how far he is to proceed, he is not told! It is GOD who employs him, and requires of him implicit obedience. Like Abraham he follows by faith.

God often speaks in the desert.

Ethiopia

Acts 8:27 So he arose and went. And behold, a man of Ethiopia, a eunuch of great authority under Candace the queen of the Ethiopians, who had charge of all her treasury, and had come to Jerusalem to worship, **Ethiopia, in the OT, is a general name given to the country south of the first cataract of the Nile. A possible 800 mile Pilgrimage.**

***Psa 68:31** Princes shall come out of Egypt; Ethiopia shall soon stretch out her hands unto God.

2 Chronicles 14:9 (ESV) Zerah the Ethiopian came out against them with an army of a million men and 300 chariots, and came as far as Mareshah.

2 Chr 16:8 “Were the Ethiopians and the Lubim not a huge army with very many chariots and horsemen? Yet, because you relied on the LORD, He delivered them into your hand.

Numbers 12:1 And Miriam and Aaron spake against Moses because of the Ethiopian woman whom he had married: for he had married an Ethiopian woman.

The Queen of Sheba could have introduced this knowledge of God.

The Ethiopian eunuch Ebed-melech, in the time of Jeremiah 38.

Eunuchs The Hebrew word translated eunuch could be used of any court official (At Gen. 37:36 and 39:1 the reference is to a married man). (presumably as a Jewish convert. As a eunuch, he would be excluded from the Temple restricted in his ability to worship, Deuteronomy 23:1). Greek, a chamberlain (state-officer):

Isa 56:4, 5 *For thus saith the LORD unto the eunuchs that keep my sabbaths, and choose the things that please me, and take hold of my covenant; Even unto them will I give in mine house and within my walls a place and a name better than of sons and of daughters: I will give them an everlasting name, that shall not be cut off.*

Pray to Understand

Acts 8:28, 29 *was returning. And sitting in his chariot, he was reading Isaiah the prophet. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go near and overtake this chariot." Rush Limbaugh's Cochlear Implant Surgery.*

God always draws near those who read with a desire to understand.

Acts 8:30 *So Philip ran to him, and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah, and said, "Do you understand what you are reading?"*

Our Lord Jesus Christ interpreted many Old Testament passages to His disciples, "And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself" (Lk.24: 27).

Acts 8:31 *And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he asked Philip to come up and sit with him.*

I think he was praying for help to understand.

I picked up a man in the desert who taught me.

Acts 8:32-34 *The place in the Scripture which he read was this:*

"He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; And as a lamb before its shearer is silent, So He opened not His mouth. In His humiliation His justice was taken away, And who will declare His generation? For His life is taken from the earth."

So the eunuch answered Philip and said, "I ask you, of whom does the prophet say this, of himself or of some other man?"

In reading the word of God, we should often pause, to inquire of whom and of what the sacred writers spoke; but especially our thoughts should be employed about the Redeemer.

Acts 8:35 *Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning at this Scripture, preached Jesus to him. Christ and Him Crucified.*

Obeying The Word

Acts 8:36 *Now as they went down the road, they came to some water. And the eunuch said, "See, here is water. **Gina Delaca.***

God will provide a way and a place if we are willing.

What hinders me from being baptized?" What hinders you?

Acts 8:37 *Then Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." **Acts 8:38, 39** So he commanded the chariot to stand still. And both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him. Now when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught Philip away, so that the eunuch saw him no more; and he went on his way rejoicing.*

HE WORSHIPED

HE READ

HE ASKED FOR UNDERSTANDING

HE BELIEVED

HE OBEYED

HE WENT

HE REJOICED

Acts 8:40 *But Philip was found at Azotus. (Azotus [uh-ZOH-tus] Greek name for Ashdod 20 miles from Gaza.) And passing through, he preached in all the cities till he came to Caesarea.*

The Coptic church

Jesuits tried to induce the Abyssinian church to accept Roman Catholicism. They influenced King Zadenghel to propose to submit to the Papacy (A.D.1604). "Prohibiting all his subjects, upon severe penalties, to observe Saturday any longer." Gedde's "Church History of Ethiopia." p.311, also Gibbon's "Decline and Fall," ch. 47

It was the famous whose memory Christ honoured the Queen of Sheba referred to her as the "Queen of the South" who came to Jerusalem to meet King Solomon. A philosopher and truth-seeker in her own right, she came to accept the One God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and brought the religion of Israel home with her.

Philip as Evangelist, Father, and Host

Acts 21:8 *And the next day we that were of Paul's company departed, and came unto Caesarea: and we entered into the house of Philip the evangelist, which was one of the seven; and abode with him.*

Acts 21:9 (NKJV) *Now this man had four virgin daughters who prophesied.*

Acts 2:17-18 (NKJV) *'And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, ¹⁸ And on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days; And they shall prophesy.*