

Effective Witnessing

Acts 8:26-46

New King James Version (NKJV)

Christ Is Preached to an Ethiopian

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. 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, ²⁸ was returning. And sitting in his chariot, he was reading Isaiah the prophet. ²⁹ Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go near and overtake this chariot.”

³⁰ So Philip ran to him, and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah, and said, “Do you understand what you are reading?”

³¹ And he said, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he asked Philip to come up and sit with him. ³² 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.*

*³³ In His humiliation His justice was taken away,
And who will declare His generation?
For His life is taken from the earth.”^[a]*

³⁴ So the eunuch answered Philip and said, “I ask you, of whom does the prophet say this, of himself or of some other man?” ³⁵ Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning at this Scripture, preached Jesus to him. ³⁶ Now as they went down the road, they came to some water. And the eunuch said, “See, *here is* water. What hinders me from being baptized?”

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.”^[b]

³⁸ So he commanded the chariot to stand still. And both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him. ³⁹ 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.

⁴⁰ But Philip was found at Azotus. And passing through, he preached in all the cities till he came to Caesarea.

I. We must respond to the Spirits leading.

Acts 1:8

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⁸ But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me^[a] in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

Romans 8:14

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¹⁴ For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.

II. They must be open to the truth

Vs. 28,31 ...he was reading Isaiah the prophet

Door 84- Evangel article

He stated he needed guidance. He asked Phillip to help him.

Readiness Graph

1-----5-----10

We must have discernment.

Where does that come from?

The Holy Spirit.

Phillip was giving the Holy Spirit something to work with.

III. We must proceed tactfully.

We need contact but we also need tact.

v.30 Phillip was excited- He ran to him- contact.

Then he asked.

Do you understand what you are reading?- tact.

IV. We must present Jesus.

Romans 1:16

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The Just Live by Faith

¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ,^[a] for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.

v. 35 Phillip opened his mouth preached Jesus to him.

It is not what we think or feel.

Jesus is who everyone needs.

Matthew 16:16

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¹⁶ Simon Peter answered and said, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”

V. We must follow through to completion.

v. 37-38

a. They must understand v. 30

Phillip asked, Do you understand?

b. They must believe v.37

c. They must obey v.38

Like the car salesman we need to close the deal.

Matthew 12:43-45

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An Unclean Spirit Returns

⁴³ “When an unclean spirit goes out of a man, he goes through dry places, seeking rest, and finds none. ⁴⁴ Then he says, ‘I will return to my house from which I came.’ And when he comes, he finds *it* empty, swept, and put in order. ⁴⁵ Then he goes and takes with him seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter and dwell there; and the last *state* of that man is worse than the first. So shall it also be with this wicked generation.”

This verse helps to understand how important it is to follow up with the New Convert to disciple them.

It is spiritual warfare.

Our job is not done at conversion.

Matthew 28:18-20

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¹⁸ And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ Go therefore^[a] 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.^[b]

Chorus page 659

Lord, lay some soul upon my heart

And love that soul through me

And may I nobly do my part to win that soul for you.

Hymn page 655 Something Beautiful