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“Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to this chariot and join it.” So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” He replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

“Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,
so he does not open his mouth.
In his humiliation justice was denied him.
Who can describe his generation?
For his life is taken away from the earth.”

The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?” He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.”

Acts 8:26-40

Gospel Principles

1. The Gospel is radically _____ of the _____ and _____

2. We don't _____ people to Jesus, Jesus _____ us to people

3. There are no _____ witnesses

Gospel Strategy

1. Go _____ and _____ with

2. _____

3. Get them into _____

Memory Verse

“For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.”

Hebrews 4:12

MY NEXT STEP TODAY IS TO . . .

- Invite Jesus to be my Lord and Savior for the first time today
- Memorize Hebrews 4:12
- Pray that the Spirit lead me into witnessing opportunities for Jesus
- Commit to going over and joining with the one person God has called me to witness to
- Prioritize time in God's Word that I may be prepared to share when opportunities are presented



Discussion Questions - Week #6

LIFEGROUPS

QUICK REVIEW

Thinking back to the sermon this weekend, “The Greatest Evangelism Strategy: Get the People Reading the Bible,” summarize the main point in a sentence or two.

Looking at your notes, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

Is there any practical step you plan to take this week in response to the message?

GETTING STARTED

► What comes to your mind when you hear the words evangelist or evangelism? How do you think our culture views evangelism?

► If someone opened a gospel door to you by saying, “So tell me what you believe?” Where would you start? What is the first thing you would talk about?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. By the end of the book of Acts, Philip is no longer waiting tables but is recognized by Luke as “the evangelist.” Similarly, in 1 Thessalonians, Paul opens his letter by giving thanks for the notoriety of the Thessalonians' faith. Read 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10. What stands out to you in this passage?

What was the impact of the gospel Paul preached on the Thessalonians?

In verse eight, Paul talks about the Thessalonian church's faith being “known everywhere.” What do you think made their faith so remarkable?

Do the people in your circle recognize your faith, or is it a well-kept secret?

If they know of your faith, how do they know, and what do they know about it?

Is there any practical step you feel God is inviting you to take in response to this passage?

2. Read Romans 10:9-15. How would you summarize this passage?

What do you think it means to declare with your mouth that “Jesus is Lord”?

Do you think there is a difference between believing with your heart and believing with your mind?

How do you think we go about preaching the gospel amid a culture that doesn't like being preached to?

What's one thing that stands in the way of you sharing the gospel with the people in your life?

FOR PRACTICE

As mentioned earlier in our study on Acts, the power of our public witness is often tied to the time we spend in private with Jesus. In other words, effective evangelism flows from our love for and connection to Jesus. It sounds like John 15:5, doesn't it? This week, reflect on your time spent with Jesus and ask yourself: is it focused, consistent, and meaningful? If not, what would have to change for the answer to be yes, yes, and yes? This week's encouragement is not the practice of a specific discipline but to take time to evaluate your spiritual practices to determine what's lacking, what's most life-giving, and where God would have you make a change.

SHARE IT

Is there anything you heard or learned in the weekend message or Life Group this week that you want to share with someone you know?

PRAYER REQUESTS

Pray for our mission partners ministering amongst Muslim communities in India. Pray for greater participation in their seeker groups and that studying scripture would stir spiritual hunger and lead to life transformation. Pray also for their perseverance and encouragement amid the many challenges of daily life.