



Part 6: Starting Fresh

Grant Fishbook, Lead Teaching Pastor | April 14 & 15, 2018

Crossing the Line in Acts 8

Crossing the line of direction (Acts 8:26-29)

Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Go south to the road—the desert road—that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” 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, and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the book of Isaiah the prophet. The Spirit told Philip, “Go to that chariot and stay near it.”

Application: Go when the Holy Spirit says go!

Crossing the line of opportunity (Acts 8:30-31)

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

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

Application: Act when the Holy Spirit says act!

Crossing the line of honesty (Acts 8:32-34)

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.

In his humiliation he was deprived of justice.

Who can speak of his descendants?

For his life was taken from the earth.”

The eunuch asked Philip, “Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?”

Application: When you don’t know an answer, ask!

Suggestion: Be prepared with a humble answer and don’t be afraid to say, “I don’t know but I’ll find out!”

Crossing the line of boldness (Acts 8:35)

Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus.

Application: When in doubt, speak about Jesus! Don't talk about what you have done for him; brag about what he has done for you.

Crossing the line of obedience (Acts 8:36-40)

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?" And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both 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 suddenly took Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing. Philip, however, appeared at Azotus and traveled about, preaching the gospel in all the towns until he reached Caesarea.

Application: Stop with the excuses and obey!

Next Steps

Most of our spring classes started last week, but it's not too late to join if you'll decide to today. Pick up a copy of CTK Life or see today's program for opportunities and stop by the Connection Point in the Commons to register and find out more.

Small Group Questions

- 1) What steps do you take to protect your physical identity (passwords, wallets, documents)? What about protecting your spiritual identity?
- 2) Read Acts 8:26-40. What strikes you about the story: the opportunity? The boldness? The baptism? Share what touches your heart.
- 3) When was the last time you felt prompted by the Holy Spirit? What did you do?
- 4) What have you learned about your spiritual identity during this series?
- 5) How has your view of Jesus changed knowing that he views you as a son or daughter of God?
- 6) What do you need prayer for today?