

Phillip's Ministry Among the Samaritans
Acts 8:25-40
March 27, 2022

Review Sunday PM Acts 8:1-8

Tonight, Simon and false conversion(s).

This morning: Phillip and the Ethiopian Eunuch.

Jews didn't go to Samaria; they were "half breeds." They originated when the Assyrians captured the 10 Northern Tribes, deported many and then imported others who married with the Jews. So Jews and the Samaritans didn't associate. In fact, the Samaritans had their own temple and priesthood. Jews wouldn't go thru Samaria while travelling, even if it was shortest, they would go around. Just proof that racism goes way back.

The word "preached" in these verses:

8:4 - preach the Gospel, to evangelize

8:5- to announce as a herald.

We are God's instrument, literally worthless unless picked up by the Creator and played. God tunes me.

God desires for us to be a conduit of his love. He wants us to show the Truth, love and grace to Christians and not Christians alike. So how do we do that? Phillip showed us.

Be listening for the voice of the Spirit – vs. 26-29.

¹¹ Then He said, "Go out, and stand on the mountain before the LORD." And behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind tore into the mountains and broke the rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake; ¹² and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a still small voice.

1 Kings 19:11-12

The best way to be in tune with the Spirit is seeking Him, praying, searching our own heart as we spend quality time with Jesus.

I must apply God's grace, love and Truth to my life first before I can truly help others.

Be available.

“God I’m about to go to the store, ball field, work, will You use me in the life of a believer or non-believer today? Would You have me share the Gospel, a word of encouragement or the like”?

What if every place we went we were intentionally looking of how we could be encouraging and be used by God?

Be adaptable.

If you are like me, we can get so laser focused on a task or our “to-do” list that everything else is not even seen or payed attention to. May we have our to-do list and yet be willing to say, “God, whatever you want.”

Be ready for that nudge.

If I am already in a foul attitude, ticked off, frustrated etc. it’s hard to be ready for the nudge of the Holy Spirit. Remember, our attitude should be like that of Christ Jesus.

All men and woman have many of the same struggles and heartaches, God wants to use us.

In time most will find that those hungers of money, power, fame, pride and selfishness come way short.

Prayer Focus:

I would be listening for/to the Sprit.

I would be available to the Spirit.

I would be adaptable.

I would be ready for the nudge of the Spirit.

I would be God’s instrument, ready to be played whenever He would like.