

CP - 9/18/22

Acts 8:26-40 - God's Work in Seeking and Saving

Main Point in the Text: *God is actively drawing people into the Kingdom and sending workers into the harvest*

Side Point: *God cares for the soul of an individual as much as he does the masses.*

"You will be MY witnesses in Jerusalem*, Judea*, Samaria*, and to the ends of the Earth"
(Acts 1:8)

Sermon Outline

1. God's Work in the World

- Ethiopia - 500 miles from Jerusalem / known as the "ends of the Earth"
- He had went to Jerusalem to worship
- God drew the Ethiopian through His Word
- God sent a messenger on his way home
- God provided water in a desert for baptism
- God, through the Ethiopian, got the Gospel to Africa (the ends of the Earth)

****Are you seeking? Your seeking is evidence that you are being sought by Yahweh.***

****Do you feel like you have been cut off? God has reversed your condemnation.***

****Has God placed Godly people in your life? It's not by coincidence.***

****There is nothing on God's side that would keep you from trusting in Jesus.***

****God will use you to get His Gospel where He has already placed you.***

2. God's Work in His People

- The Holy Spirit leads God's people personally.
- The Holy Spirit enables us to love. (Ethiopian Eunuch)
- The Holy Spirit leads us to obedience in God's mission.
 - Obedience is one step at a time.
 - Obedience may not always make sense. (v. 26 & 29)

****What is the Spirit leading you to do?***

****Where is the Spirit leading you to go?***

****Who is the Spirit leading you to?***

God doesn't leave us to figure it out on our own. He has given us the Spirit to lead, guide, and direct us.

3. God's Work through His People

- The Holy Spirit has placed you where you are to help people understand.
- The Bible is meant to be understood.
- Philip explained the text to a man whose nationality and physical condition made him cut off from the assembly to the Lord.
- v. 35 - Philip started at the text and shared with him the good news of Jesus.
 - "Don't have to be led to share the gospel; we've already been commanded to do that."
 - Sharing the gospel indicates a familiarity with it.

****This isn't some crazy mighty act. This is simple obedience that we can all relate to.***

4. God's Work in Salvation

*Salvation is:

- initiated by God
- In partnership with the Word (humbles and draws) ("how can I understand?")
- Focused on Christ
- Followed by baptism
- Fruitful for joy and witness

Small Group Questions:

1. What from the Bible passage and sermon spoke to you?
2. How does this story highlight God's passion for the nations?
3. What does this passage teach about being led by the Spirit?
4. What does this story teach about the need to explain the Bible to others?
5. Read Isaiah 52:13-53:12. What does this text teach about Jesus?
6. Why is baptism important?
7. How does the conversion of the Ethiopian advance the message of the book of Acts?
8. How might you share the gospel this week?