

Go Near.

Acts 8:26-40

Sunday, March 4, 2018

Philip leaves a thriving ministry to be near *one* in need.

1. Be willing to go **WHEREVER** God calls (even a 'desert'.) (*Exodus 2-3; 1 Kings 19:4-14; Matthew 4:1-11; 2 Timothy 2:15, 4:3; James 1:3; Colossians 2:7; Ephesians 3:14-21*)
2. The most incredible ministry begins with being **NEAR** someone. (*John 10:27-28; Galatians 6:2; Hebrews 6:10; 13:16; Luke 6:38; Proverbs 3:27; Romans 12:13; Luke 3:10-11; Matthew 25:35-40*)
3. From what we have **STORED** up in our hearts, we can minister to others. (*Ephesians 5:14-16; Colossians 4:5; Psalm 90:12; Romans 15:14; Hebrews 5:12; 2 Corinthians 1:4*)
4. **MEET** the person where he/she is. Begin there. (*Isaiah 53*)
5. Make **JESUS** the main point! Get the person to **WHO** He is and **WHAT** He has done for them. (*2 Corinthians 5:17; Acts 4:11-12; Romans 5:10-11; 1 Corinthians 15:3-4*)
6. Help others take **THEIR NEXT** step in **THEIR** journey with Christ! (*Romans 10:9-10; Colossians 3:16; Ephesians 5:19; Hebrews 10:24-25; 1 Thessalonians 5:11; Ecclesiastes 4:9-10; 1 Corinthians 14:26; Romans 14:19; Hebrews 3:13; Jeremiah 29:13*)
7. The outcome? **JOY!** (For you, for them.)



*Taking it further to help you **THRIVE...***

1. Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
2. Share a time when an apparent interruption ended up being a divine opportunity. Did this (or a similar occurrence) change your perspective on "divine interruptions"?
3. Through Philip's obedience, the gospel was spread and God's purpose fulfilled. Have you ever seen unexpected results from an act of obedience? (Describe.)
4. When it comes to discipleship, why is being 'near' someone so important?
5. Each of us has come from different walks of life, and this is not a bad thing! Describe a time in your life when there may have been empty, religious tradition but, looking back, you know you were hungry for God. Has anything changed? How?

