

SERMON NOTES

SUNDAY 22.06.25

PREACHER: PS NATHAN

TO BE CONTINUED...

BECOMING CHRISTLIKE

*BEING [HEART], THINKING [MIND] & **DOING [BODY]***

[A PERSONAL REFLECTION]

Conviction of a Disciple:

A disciple loves their neighbour with words, works and wonders.

OVERVIEW

Through Philip, we see that divine appointments happen on the way. Gospel mission isn't about waiting until we're fully ready or clear. It's about trusting that God is already at work — and saying yes to being the “middle man.”

We also see how the gospel breaks down cultural and religious barriers. The Ethiopian eunuch was doubly excluded — a Gentile and a eunuch — yet the Spirit leads Philip to him. This is the heart of Acts: the gospel reaching people we'd never expect, through people who are simply willing to go.

ACTION

Step 1: Reflect: Am I waiting on clarity when God is waiting on obedience? In what areas of my life have I confused comfort with calling? Spend time reflecting on what it might look like to trust without all the details.

Step 2: Commit: Commit to taking one small step of Spirit-led obedience this week - whether it's reaching out to someone, offering to pray, or starting a gospel conversation. You don't need all the answers - just a willingness to go.

Step 3: Ask the Holy Spirit each morning: “Who do You want me to notice today?” Be willing to follow the nudge, even if it leads you away from your “Samaria” and toward a “desert road.”

THOUGHT

SCRIPTURE: Acts 8:1-8, 26-40

The book of Acts is not a sequel to Jesus' ministry, it's the continuation of it. And in a very real sense, we are still part of that unfolding story.

Jesus hasn't stopped working; He's just chosen to work through us. The church is not a perfect system; we're jars of clay, cracked and ordinary. And yet God chooses partnership over perfection. He uses people to reach people.

This is seen powerfully in the story of Philip. Revival is breaking out in Samaria. Joy is filling a city. But just as the crowds press in, an angel interrupts: "Go south to the desert road." No details, no destination - just a direction. This is God's way.

Often, we want the Holy Spirit to comfort us, but here, the Spirit disrupts. Philip is pulled from the many to pursue the one. And as he obeys; even without clarity, he finds himself alongside a chariot carrying a man with a searching heart.

It's easy to assume that God calls us to wait until we're strong, trained, ready. But in Acts, God just asks people to go. And on the way, He reveals what's next.

This moment wasn't just about obedience; it was about breaking through barriers. Culturally, Philip should never have approached a Gentile eunuch. Men didn't run in this culture. Jewish prayers thanked God they weren't like this man. But gospel love doesn't wait for comfort zones. It crosses the divide.

The Ethiopian eunuch had wealth, power, and education - and yet he left Jerusalem empty. Though he had found religion, he hadn't yet found Jesus. His story was marked at this stage by exclusion: from the temple, from society, from legacy. But Scripture whispered hope - and God sent Philip to make it clear.

On his way... - both men were in motion. And in the middle of that movement, heaven orchestrated a divine appointment. Philip didn't need more information - just more faith. And the eunuch didn't need more rules - just someone to walk the road with him.

This is the gospel: God meets people in the middle of disappointment, cultural exclusion, and confusion - and invites us to be part of the story.

DISCUSSION

[A GROUP REFLECTION]

1. Where in your life have you been asking for clarity, when perhaps God is calling you simply to move?
2. Why do you think God chooses to work through people — even though it's slower and messier?
3. Have you ever been nudged by the Holy Spirit to do something that felt uncomfortable or unclear? What did you learn?
4. What cultural, relational, or religious barriers might God be calling you to cross for the sake of someone else's salvation?

PRAYER

Lord, awaken our hearts to Your leading.

May we not wait for perfect clarity, but move at the whisper of Your voice. Teach us to trust You on the desert roads, when the path feels uncertain, and the destination unseen. Break down every barrier of fear, pride, and comfort that keeps us from obeying.

Give us eyes to see the one, hearts soft to divine interruptions, and feet ready to walk wherever You lead.

We don't want to be observers of the gospel — we want to be participants. Fill us with boldness, not for show, but for service. Not to be seen, but to truly see.

May Your Spirit move in us — not just to inspire us, but to send us.

Amen