

Next Part 4: What Matters

(Acts 8:25 NIV) After they had further proclaimed the word of the Lord and testified about Jesus, Peter and John returned to Jerusalem, preaching the gospel in many Samaritan villages.

(Acts 8:26-39 NIV) Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Go south to the road—the desert road—that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." 27So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of the Kandake (which means "queen of the Ethiopians"). This man had gone to Jerusalem to worship, 28and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the Book of Isaiah the prophet. 29The Spirit told Philip, "Go to that chariot and stay near it." 30Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. "Do you understand what you are reading?" Philip asked. 31"How can I," he said, "unless someone explains it to me?" So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. 32This is the passage of Scripture the eunuch was reading: "He was led like a sheep to the slaughter, and as a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he did not open his mouth. 33In his humiliation he was deprived of justice. Who can speak of his descendants? For his life was taken from the earth." 34The eunuch asked Philip, "Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?" 35Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus. 36As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water. What can stand in the way of my being baptized?" 37[And Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God."] 38And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him. 39When 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.

What Matters

✓ God matters

(Acts 8:25 NIV) After they had further proclaimed the word of the Lord and testified about Jesus.

(Philippians 3:7-8 NIV) But whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish that I may gain Christ...

(Luke 12:20-21 NIV) But God said to him, "You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?" This is how it will be with anyone who stores up things for himself but is not rich toward God.

✓ People matter

(Acts 8:25, 27 NIV) Preaching the gospel in many Samaritan villages ...He started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury.

(Galatians 5:13-15 NIV) Serve one another in love. The entire law is summed up in a single command: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' If you keep on biting and devouring each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other.

(Matthew 25:35 NIV) For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink...whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.

✓ Eternity matters

(Acts 8:37- 38 NLT) And Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him.

(Luke 12:15 NIV) Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.

Leave a Legacy

1. Live with the mission in mind.

(Colossians 1:16 Message) For everything, absolutely everything, above and below, visible and invisible...everything got started in him and finds its purpose in him.

2. Work on getting better.

(Proverbs 27:17 NIV) As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another.

3. Start sowing the seeds of hope.

(2 Corinthians 9:6-7, 11 NIV) Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver... You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.