

CHURCH SCHOOL LESSONS  
MAY 17, 2020



Boy, you guys are really lucky!! Two lessons in one week. Our lesson for this Sunday introduces us to Philip and his new friend. When a man in a carriage asked Philip for help, Philip jumped right in. The man in the carriage was reading a scroll of the Book of Isaiah, one of the prophets, but he did not understand what he was reading. Philip was one of the chosen seven we talked about in the lesson earlier this week. Let's see what he is up to now. Turn in your Bibles and read Acts 8:26-28.

This man, an important minister of the queen of Ethiopia, was far from home. He probably looked very different and sounded different than the people Philip was used to. Can you see on the map how far it is from Ethiopia to Jerusalem?

Now, read Acts 8:29-35.

How do you think Philip knew it was the Spirit telling him to follow the carriage?

How do you think he felt when the queen's servant invited him to ride in the carriage with him?

Who do you think the passage from Isaiah was talking about?

Read Acts 8:36-40.

How is the servant's baptism like the baptism in our church? How is it different from the baptism in our church? What do you think of Philip's disappearance?

Our story says that Philip "proclaimed the good news about Jesus." Imagine that you are Philip. What would you say to the Ethiopian man in the carriage? Why did you say what you did?

If you were the Ethiopian man, what would have been the most helpful for you to hear?

We are going to do something that will remind us that we are all welcome in God's kingdom. We are going to practice "passing the peace" to our siblings and parents, like we do in church during worship. Gather together in a group. If you have some music, you can play it. When the music starts, mingle amongst each other. When the music stops, take the hand of a person in your family group and say, "Peace be with you". Now find something that is different between the two of you. It can be a physical attribute or something you like that the other person doesn't. Now say to the other person, "You are welcome here." This reminds us about our story where everyone was welcome in the church. Continue playing until everyone has a chance to greet all the others and everyone has been greeted.

In our lesson earlier this week we learned a little about the letters books that were written to specific Christian communities. The first letter book is Romans. This was Paul's letter written to the Christians in Rome. He gives them any instructions about how to live. Read Romans 12:9-21. What instructions do you think are the most important. Can you think of seven things you would put on your "To-do List"?

Now we are going to learn about some other Letters books. We know that the letters books were written by Paul, who became a leader in the first Christian churches. The books are names of the people he wrote to, mostly according to where they lived. The first seven books of the Letters section are Romans, First and Second Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians and Colossians. Romans comes first because Rome was the most important city in the Roman Empire. First and Second Corinthians follow Romans because together they are the longest letters. The next four books are easy to remember using a phrase "General Electric Power Company" or "Go Eat Pop Corn" which stands for the first letters of each of the books G-E-P-C. When we get to the end of this section it will include a blank Bible Library sheet and you can write in the name of all of the books you have learned,

Let's close this lesson with a prayer. Thank you God, for welcoming us all, no matter how different we may be. Remind us to always welcome others just as you welcome us. Keep us safe as we continue to be in our homes and not in our schools and other social events. Amen.