

## SERMON OUTLINE

**SERMON TITLE:** Every Christian an Evangelist

**SERMON REFERENCE:** Acts 8:26-39

**LWF SERMON NUMBER:** #2278

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1) INTRODUCTION

- a) John 4:35
- b) God has a plan for your life, and He wants you take your eyes off of self and place them onto others.
- c) No matter what else we do, if we are not endeavoring to bring souls to Christ, then we are not right with God.
- d) Matthew 28:19
  - i) This is not a suggestion but a command.
  - ii) Every Christian is to be an evangelist.
  - iii) We can't all be preachers, but we can all be reachers.
- e) Acts 8 tells of Philip, a deacon and evangelist, who led the Ethiopian eunuch to faith in Christ.
  - i) Acts 8:26-35
  - ii) This account shows us a pattern of how God can use us.
- f) God never leaves a fully surrendered and cleansed vessel unused.

2) BE SENSITIVE TO THE DIRECTION OF THE SPIRIT (Acts 8:26)

- a) What the Holy Spirit told Philip to do did not make much sense.
  - i) He told Philip to leave the revival in Samaria and go to Gaza.
    - (1) God's ways are often unexplained.
      - (a) Perfect obedience does not need to know why.
    - (2) God's ways are also often unforeseen.
      - (a) We don't always see the will of God by looking over the horizon but by looking back over our shoulder.
  - ii) Philip did not know what the Lord had in store, and we don't know what opportunities God may have for us in the future.
    - (1) In 1885, a Sunday school teacher led an uneducated 19 year-old shoe clerk to faith in Christ, who became the great evangelist, Dwight L. Moody.
    - (2) God used Moody to inspire the British pastor, F.B. Meyer, whom God then used to inspire Wilbur Chapman.
    - (3) Chapman was then used in the life of W.A. Sunday, who preached revival meetings that spawned prayer meetings in Charlotte, North Carolina, seeking God to send a revival to Charlotte.
    - (4) A revival did come to Charlotte, and a 16 year-old named Billy Graham was saved.
- b) The Holy Spirit of God finds a person whose heart is open to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
  - i) The Ethiopian was ready for Jesus.
    - (1) Acts 8:27
    - (2) God works on an individual until that person is ready to receive Jesus, and then God prepares another individual to go and share the Gospel.
      - (a) God works on the sinner and on the soul winner.

- (b) When we're sensitive to the direction of the Holy Spirit, God brings us together.
  - ii) John 4:4
    - (1) Jesus had a divine appointment with the woman at the well.
  - iii) Acts 10
    - (1) God sent Simon Peter to lead Cornelius to Christ.
  - c) When we are sensitive to the direction of the Spirit, God will lead us to someone who needs Jesus.
- 3) BE SWIFT FOR THE DEMANDS OF THE SPIRIT (Acts 8:29-30)
- a) Philip had to run to catch the chariot with the Ethiopian.
    - i) Philip did not rationalize the situation or use any excuses.
    - ii) Philip ran because the time was short.
  - b) We sometimes miss opportunities because we are not swift.
- 4) BE STEADFAST IN THE DESIRE OF THE SPIRIT (John 15:26-27)
- a) The desire of the Spirit of God is that we share Jesus Christ.
    - i) Acts 1:8
    - ii) Acts 8:30-35
  - b) Philip did not talk to the Ethiopian about denominations or politics or race relations; he talked about Jesus.
    - i) He first shared with the Ethiopian that he was a sinner.
      - (1) Isaiah 53:6
      - (2) There is no one so good they need not be saved and none so bad they cannot be saved.
    - ii) Philip also shared how Jesus, the Lamb of God, took our place upon the cross as a substitute.
      - (1) Jesus has taken our place that we might take His.
    - iii) Philip shared that salvation is by faith and not of works.
      - (1) Acts 8:36-37
        - (a) Believer's baptism does not save us; it is an illustration and demonstration of our salvation.
        - (2) Salvation is by grace through faith.
          - (a) None of it depends upon us; it is all God.
          - (b) Romans 11:6
  - c) Acts 8:38-39
    - i) The motive for this baptism was obedience.
      - (1) Matthew 28:19-20
      - (2) Baptism is not necessary for salvation, but it is necessary for obedience, and obedience is necessary for joy.
    - ii) Baptism is also a form of confirmation.
      - (1) It made real to the Ethiopian what had happened to him.
    - iii) The Greek word for "baptism" means "to immerse."
      - (1) This demonstrates the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

(a) Romans 6:4

(2) This was a testimony to his entourage traveling with him that something had happened.

(3) When he came up out of the water, it pictured a new person raised to walk in newness of life.

## 5) CONCLUSION

a) We have a privilege that even the angels do not have: bringing souls to Jesus Christ.

b) God calls each believer to be an evangelist.

c) God desires you to be saved today.

d) Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.

e) Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.

i) Romans 3:23

ii) Romans 10:9-10

iii) Romans 10:13

iv) Acts 16:31

v) John 3:16