
Acts 8: 26-40 Divine Appointments

Three great leaders in Acts are Peter, who led the outreach among the Jews, Paul who led the outreach to the Gentiles, and Philip who began the transition from one to the other in Acts 8. Philip is the least known, but he was the first to leave Jerusalem to take the gospel to non-Jews. He first shared with an African and he did so without actually going to Africa. He was led by God to a special encounter, what we call a divine appointment, with an Ethiopian who had visited Jerusalem “to worship” (8:27).

Think

Think about the day you received Jesus as your savior. What had God done in your life to prepare you for that decision?

Talk

1. List all the “coincidences” mentioned in Philip’s divine encounter. How does Luke tell us that God is in control of these events?
2. The Ethiopian was reading from Isaiah 53. Read verses 3-9 of that passage and list the ways that Jesus fulfilled this description of the Messiah, written over 600 years before Jesus was born.
3. Ephesians 2:10 says, “We are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.” Can you share some of these divine appointments from your own life?

Act

Do you get the impression that sharing Christ with people was a “normal” thing in the life of every believer in the book of Acts? Explain your answer.

Are you ready to share what you have found in Jesus with another who doesn’t know him? What would you need to feel ready?