

ACTS EMPOWERED FOR JESUS'S MISSION

Sunday, February 12, 2023 | Wawasee Bible | Milford, Indiana | Pastor Josh Weiland

Part 16 | Philip in Samaria Acts 8:4-25

God takes **HOSTILE** situations (v. 1-5)

persecution & opposition

relationships & cultures

and makes them **HOSPITABLE** (v. 6-13)

through his Spirit

through our obedience

by the power of **THE GOSPEL!** (v. 12-25)

you can't buy it or earn it

check your heart



Text us at **833-271-8805**.

Text this number anytime for prayer. Just say, "Pray for..." followed by your request.
Text the word "SHAPE" to register for the SHAPE mini-Retreat on Feb. 25 (9a to Noon).



Missionaries IN ACTS

Philip (8:4-40)

One of the first to preach the gospel outside Jerusalem.

Peter & John (8:14-25)

Visited new Samaritan believers to encourage them.

Paul (journey to Damascus) (9:1-25)

Set out to capture Christians but was captured by Christ.

Peter (9:32-10:48)

Led by God to one of the first Gentile families to become Christians—Cornelius's family.

Barnabas (11:25-30)

Went to Antioch as an encourager; traveled on to Troas to bring Paul back to Jerusalem from Antioch.

Barnabas, Paul, John Mark (13:1-14:28)

Left Antioch for Cyprus, Pamphylia, and Galatia on the first missionary journey.

Barnabas & John Mark (15:36-41)

After a disagreement with Paul, they left Antioch for Cyprus.

Paul, Silas, Timothy, Luke (15:36-18:22)

Left Antioch to revisit churches in Galatia, then traveled on to Asia, Macedonia, and Achaia on a second missionary journey.

Apollos (18:24-28)

Left Alexandria for Ephesus; learned the complete gospel story from Priscilla and Aquila; preached in Athens and Corinth.

Paul, Timothy, Erastus (18:23; 19:1-21:14)

Third major missionary journey revisiting churches in Galatia, Asia, Macedonia, and Achaia.

Chart reproduced from Bruce B. Barton and Grant R. Osborne, Acts, Life Application Bible Commentary (Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House, 1999), 134.



Study Guide

Questions & Scripture for Further Study

What is this? – Each week people from Wawasee Bible meet in small groups in various homes to learn about Jesus, pray, eat, laugh, & live life together. **We call them Life Groups.** The questions here are based on the sermon each week (often a related part of Scripture), and guide each group's study. If you're interested in connecting with a Life Group, let us know on a Connect Card or at the Connect Desk!

Getting Started

This is the week of Super Bowl LVII. What sports or activities did you participate in growing up? Which was your favorite? — Do you have a moment of glory (or infamy!) from that sport/activity you can share with your group?

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, *was there anything you heard for the first time, that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?*

Digging Deeper

Use this guide for further personal and group study this week. For the most impact in your life and in your group, *work through it on your own before you gather with your Life Group.* If your Life Group isn't gathering this week, use this guide for further study personally.

1. In **Acts 1:8** the disciples were commanded by Jesus to wait on the Holy Spirit before they acted. Sometimes we may be tempted to jump the gun by acting or speaking instead of waiting and listening for the Holy Spirit. Can you think of a situation when you waited for the Holy Spirit and then acted? How did that turn out?
2. Philip is a great example to us in that in the midst of his life being turned upside down, becoming a refugee in Samaria, he continued to live out his faith and share it. **James 1:22** commands us to "not merely listen to the word," but to "do what it says." Work through **James 1:19-27** below and answer the questions that follow.

Circle or highlight any words or phrases that catch your attention.
Underline what you think is important to remember.
Put an X next to anything that confuses you.

¹⁹ My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, ²⁰ because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires. ²¹ Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you. ²² Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. ²³ Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror ²⁴ and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. ²⁵ But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what

(Study Guide continues on back panel...)

Welcome to Wawasee!

OUR CORE VALUES

These are things you'll see to be true about us...



1. It's All About Jesus!

You'll hear us say this often.—Why? Because *it's all about Jesus!* Apart from his death, burial, and resurrection we're wasting our time.



2. God Wrote it All Down

God wrote a book—and we are to believe the Bible in all that it teaches, obey it in all it requires, and trust it in all that it promises.



3. All People Matter

No matter who you are, where you're from, what you've done, or what's been done to you—you *matter to Jesus and you matter to us!*



4. We All Need Friends

You were designed to belong, not to go through life alone. Jesus created each of us desiring friendship and to live in community.



5. No Sacred Cows

Jesus is sacred, God's Word is sacred, *but our opinions, methods, and traditions are not*—we'll let go of any of them if more people can experience life change through the Gospel!

Word Find in the Word

Find the words from a passage related to this week's message.

Word Find for Acts 8:4-8 (NIV)

Find the words **bolded** below.

4 The **believers** who had **been scattered preached the word everywhere they went.** 5 **Philip went down to a city in Samaria. There he preached about the Christ.** 6 The **crowds listened to Philip.** They saw the **miraculous signs** he did. They all **paid close attention** to what he **said.** 7 **Evil spirits screamed and came out of many people.** **Many** who were **disabled** or who couldn't **walk** were **healed.** 8 So **there was great joy** in that **city.**

C C P R E A C H E D N N T S
I L U I R B I E V I L M D A
T O L I S T E N E D S I H I
Y S T S U S S C R E A M E D
P E O P L E R B Y V M R A V
A T S I G N S T W W A C L N
I G C R O W D S H T R B E L
D E D I S A B L E D I E D M
W E N T H E R E R W A L K A
G C P S A A T T E N T I O N
W A H G S H L Y B B E E N Y
P M I R A C U L O U S V M B
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life groups Study Guide (continued)

they do.²⁶ Those who consider themselves religious and yet do not keep a tight rein on their tongues deceive themselves, and their religion is worthless.²⁷ Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world. **JAMES 1:19-27 (NIV)**

- What importance do our actions have on our Christian faith?
 - As you reflect on this weekend's message and this passage, is there an area in your life where you feel you may be driving yourself?
3. Think some more about Philip with your group. Go back through your message notes and the passage (**Acts 8:1-25**) and list everything you notice about Philip.
 - Do you see any similarities between Philip's situation and any you find yourself in right now?
 - What warning does the example of Simon the Magician speak to you?
 4. Philip "stood in the gap" so to speak, bringing the gospel to people others may not have ventured to. Can you think of any places you need to "stand in the gap" and be a bridge to bring the gospel to others?
 5. One way to stand in the gap is by praying persistently. Jesus stood in the ultimate gap for us by giving himself up to death on a cross for our sins. Read his final prayer before his crucifixion in **John 17:20-26**.
 - What can we learn about how to pray for others based on how Jesus prayed for us?
 - Is there an area of your life where you feel compelled to pray more persistently?

NOTE: Your Life Group should sign up for & attend the SHAPE mini-Retreat on February 25 together! (9a to Noon) — **To sign up, text the word "SHAPE" to 833-271-8805.**

Closing & Prayer

Divide into separate groups of men and women for this time and pray for one another.

Much of this week's Study Guide is adapted from a study by North Coast Church in Vista, CA. North Coast is a sister church of Wawasee Bible and part of the EFCA.



Wawasee Bible is part of the Evangelical Free Church of America. View our Statement of Faith online at wawaseebible.com/beliefs. Learn more about the EFCA at efca.org.

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ACTS

EMPOWERED FOR JESUS'S MISSION

Sunday, February 12, 2023



PART **16**

Philip in Samaria



ACTS 8:4-25



We're Glad You're Here Today!

Please register your attendance on our **digital Connect Card** by scanning the QR code with your phone's camera, or by visiting **wawasee.today** in your web browser. Update your contact info, share prayer requests, or just let us know how we can serve you! You can also access today's bulletin using the same QR or link.