

Discussion Questions for “The Unstoppable Gospel: Baptism”
Acts 8:26-40, Pastor Tom Olson, Weekend of August 22nd & 23rd, 2026

Sermon Outline

God is celebrating a rather normal coming to faith in Jesus Christ (vv. 25-40).

The Ethiopian:

- He knows about God, but he’s not yet a Christian (vv. 27-28).
- He reads the Bible, even when he struggles to understand it (vv. 28-31).
- He asks questions (v. 32-34).
- He learns the good news about Jesus (vv. 32-25).
- He puts His faith in Jesus (v. 36).
- He gets baptized (v. 38).

Philip:

- He’s obedient in the desert (v. 26).
- He’s responsive to the Holy Spirit (v. 29).
- He reads the Bible with the Ethiopian (v. 30).
- He invites questions (vv. 30, 34).
- He’s ready to tell the good news about Jesus (v. 35).

God:

- Through an angel, He encourages ministry to the nations (v. 26).
- Through the Holy Spirit, He encourages evangelism (vv. 29, 39-40).
- Through the Holy Spirit, He previews our resurrection life (vv. 39-40).

(Sermon Questions on page 2.)

Sermon Questions

1. In the first half of Acts 8, we see *miraculous* testimonies – people delivered from a demonic chokehold. But here in the second half of Acts 8, we see a rather *normal* testimony – a man coming to faith after someone explains the Bible to him. *Why is it helpful that the Bible records both kinds of testimonies for us?*
2. Have you met someone who knows God, but isn't yet a Christian – like the Ethiopian at the beginning of the passage?
 - a. Does that describe you before you came to Christ?
 - b. Why is this situation fairly common?
3. What parts of Philip's approach to ministry do you *need or want* to imitate?
4. As we minister to our friends & family...
 - a. ...what we might we do that will *discourage* questions?
 - b. ...what might we do that will *encourage* questions?
5. Verse 26 tells us that Philip met the Ethiopian *in the desert*. This was not an easy place to travel or live. Share a time when you were in a spiritually dry season, but the Lord was still at work.
6. How has the Holy Spirit stirred you to share your faith in Jesus, just like He did with Philip in verse 29?
7. Have you been baptized?
 - a. Tell your group about it!
 - b. How would you encourage a Christian who's yet to be baptized to get baptized?
8. Any other takeaways from this passage or message?