

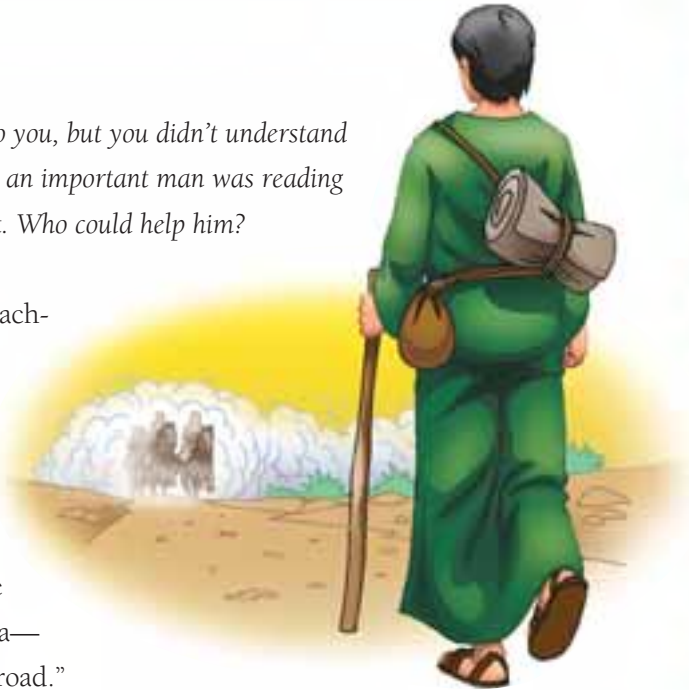


REFERENCES: ACTS 8:26-40; THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES, PP. 107-109.

God's Word

Have you ever had someone read to you, but you didn't understand what they were saying? A long time ago an important man was reading God's Word, but he didn't understand it. Who could help him?

Philip had been preaching about Jesus in Samaria. After he returned to Jerusalem, God sent an angel to tell him, "Go to the road that leads from Jerusalem to the city of Gaza—the desert road."



Philip didn't know why he was to go there, but he went. As Philip walked along that road he saw clouds of dust in the distance. Chariots and riders were coming.

He saw servants and soldiers. The soldiers were guarding an important official who worked for the queen of Ethiopia. Philip could hear him reading out loud from God's Word, Isaiah 53.

Philip smiled. Now he knew why God had sent him there! God wanted Philip to talk to that important man. He would help

Memory Verse

"Let your word help me understand."

PSALM 119:169, ICB.

The Message

God helps us understand His Word.

him understand God's Word. Philip ran up to the beautiful chariot. "Sir, do you understand what you are reading?" he asked the official.

The official looked up. "How can I understand?" he asked. "I need someone to explain it to me! Do you understand these words?"

Philip nodded. "I do."

So the official invited Philip into the chariot. "Please tell me," he said. "What do these words mean?"

As they traveled in the chariot, Philip told the Ethiopian official the good news about Jesus. How Jesus, God's own Son, had come to this world as a little baby, had grown up, had died for everybody's sins, and had risen from the dead. Philip told the official that Jesus is coming back to take people who believe in Him to live with Him in heaven.

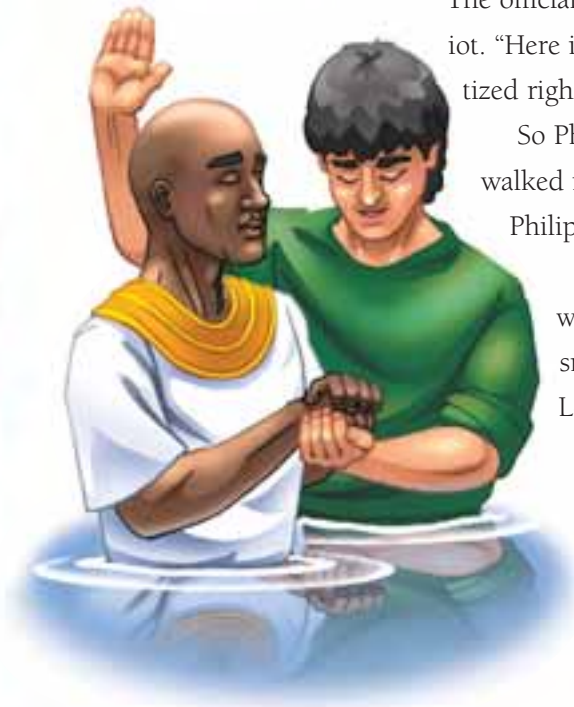
The Spirit of God spoke to the official's heart, and he believed the good news.

The official looked around them. He stopped the chariot. "Here is water!" he exclaimed. "Why can't I be baptized right now?"

So Philip and the official left the chariot and walked into the water. There along the roadside Philip baptized him.

When the two men came up out of the water, Philip disappeared. The Spirit of God snatched him away to another town where the Lord wanted him to preach the good news.

The Ethiopian official returned to his chariot and continued on his long journey, full of joy and eager to tell all his friends the good news that Jesus had died to save him and everyone else who believes. Who can help you understand the Bible?



Do and Say

SABBATH

Each day this week, read the lesson story and review the memory verse:

Let your word . . . Palms together, then open.

help me Point to self.

understand. Point to forehead.

Psalm 119:169 . . Palms together, then open.

SUNDAY

Encourage your child to share the Bible book they made in Sabbath School with someone this week and tell them how Philip helped the official understand the Bible. (Or fold a piece of paper in half, and write “Bible” on the front. Open it up, and have your child draw their favorite Bible story inside.)

MONDAY

Count and look at the Bibles in your house. Read a familiar verse to compare the different versions.

Have your child look in a mirror and describe himself/herself. Say: God’s grace is like a mirror that helps us understand what is in His book, the Bible.

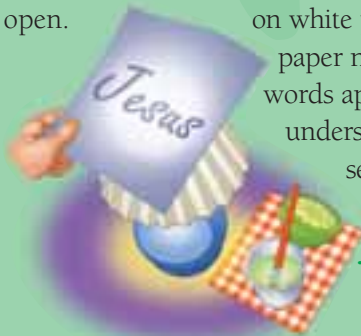
TUESDAY

Let your child turn on a flashlight and lead you around your house.

Talk about how the Bible is like a light that guides our lives. Sing a song about the Bible; then thank God for it.

WEDNESDAY

Use lemon juice, and write the memory verse on white paper. Help your child hold the paper near a lightbulb and watch the words appear. Say: God helps us to understand difficult things. We can’t see God, but we know that He is there.



THURSDAY

Read Acts 8:26-40 together.

Ask: How did Philip help the official? Why did Philip and the official go into the water? Let your child “baptize” a doll in the bathtub. Talk about how someday your child will be baptized too.

FRIDAY

Help your child make a food chariot for each family member. Cut the shape of a chariot out of a slice of bread. Add carrot circles for wheels, and carrot or celery sticks for the horse. Review the story as you eat the chariot together.

Ask your child a hard question; then explain it in simple language. Say: “Jesus will do the same for you.”

Thank God for His gifts of understanding.

