

WINNING THE GAME OF

L I F E

Found People Find People

- **For the Leader: This week we are going to talk about what people do after God finds them—they find others.**
 - It's probably the most famous, most loved hymn of all time. John Newton wrote "Amazing Grace" after years of involvement in the slave trade. In 1748 he was caught in a violent storm at sea. His ship was so damaged that he called out to God. A few years later, he finally ended his slave trading career and began studying the Bible and eventually became an Anglican Cleric.
 - He was lost, and he wrote this song to celebrate being found by God. And today that hymn is sung at churches around the world every weekend. The testimony of his life has affected the lives of millions.
 - Philip, in this week's scripture, was another person that was found by God who went on to find others by sharing about the grace of Jesus.
 - **Scripture Study Acts 8:26-38:** *26 Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Go south to the road—the desert road—that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." 27 So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian[a] eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of the Kandake (which means "queen of the Ethiopians"). This man had gone to Jerusalem to worship, 28 and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the Book of Isaiah the prophet. 29 The Spirit told Philip, "Go to that chariot and stay near it." 30 Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. "Do you understand what you are reading?" Philip asked. "How can I," he said, "unless someone explains it to me?" So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. 32 This is the passage of Scripture the eunuch was reading: "He was led like a sheep to the slaughter, and as a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he did not open his mouth. 33 In his humiliation he was deprived of justice. Who can speak of his descendants? For his life was taken from the earth." [b] 34 The eunuch asked Philip, "Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?" 35 Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus. 36 As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water. What can stand in the way of my being baptized?" [37] [c] 38 And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him.*

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- **For the Group:**
- Have you ever tried a restaurant or seen a movie that you couldn't stop talking about to other people? Why did you share it with them?
- Who introduced you to Jesus?
- **Discussion: Read Acts 8:26**
- Whether his physical condition was through choice or through birth, the eunuch would have been considered "Deformed" by the Jewish people of his day. What is the significance of God sending Philip specifically to find this person? (Look up Deut 23:1 for more insight)
 - The spirit only told Philip to go near the chariot. Was it right for him to strike up a conversation?
 - The passage that Philip shared to the Eunuch comes out of the book of Isaiah and is a prophesy of the coming Messiah. Since Phillip knew that Messiah had indeed come in the person of Jesus, what else could he have told the Ethiopian about Jesus?
 - God orchestrated this entire event and called Philip into action to save just one person. What does this tell you about God's love for each of us as individuals?
- In the passage, the Angel of the Lord and the Spirit both played a key role in helping Philip "find" the Eunuch. The Spirit is still a part of this process today. How do you "hear" the Spirit's voice in your life?
 - How comfortable are you sharing about scripture to others? Why?
 - Do you agree that it is a privilege to share Jesus with other people? Or does it feel like a burden? Why?
 - Who in your life needs to hear about the good news of Jesus Christ? Who, like the Eunuch might be ready and open to your words?
- Read Matthew 28:18-20
 - This passage is also known as the great commission. It tells us to actively shar Christ with the world. How have you done that?
 - The great commission teaches us that it isn't enough to help others make their initial connection to Jesus, but that we must also disciple them. What does that mean to you? How do we do that?
 - Why do you think that Jesus ends this commissioning with a promise not to leave us?