



Leader's Guide **Your Turn**

Acts 8:26-38 | Pastor Jon Gerlach | June 28, 2026

Session Overview

Pastor Jon talked about the story of Philip and the Ethiopian eunuch, which we will read in a moment. In the story, we learn how God uses Philip in a few different ways which leads him to that moment. In this discussion, we can compare ourselves to the different parts of the story. Maybe you're someone who is hurting and God is wanting to use your pain for His glory. Maybe you are complacent and God is trying to call you out of your comfort zone. Or Maybe you feel like an outsider and God is wanting to bring you in.

Session Flow (60-75 minutes)

Welcome and Icebreaker (10 minutes)

Who is someone you feel is your completely opposite. What are they like? What makes them so different from you?

Purpose: This will start up the group conversation and come into play later in the discussion. The goal is to have the group start thinking about who is their opposite and how we can still show them Jesus even though we're so different..

Scripture Reading

Read Acts 8:26-38 aloud together.

Leader Coaching Sidebar

- Try to foster an atmosphere of community and to bring the group together to be able to lean on each other throughout the week in listening to what God is calling us to.
- Pay attention to someone who may be cutting off others. When people are talked over, they can be discouraged from participating in the discussion.
- In some of the questions, we will be talking about people who are drastically different than us. Try to steer the conversation away from complaining about people who are different if it gets to that point.

Discussion (40-50 minutes)

- 1. As you read the passage, what stuck out to you? Did you find anything inspiring, discouraging, or important in any way?**

Leader Note: If needed, give the group time to read the passage again or read the scripture before that talks about the journey of Philip leading up to our story today.

- 2. Do you see yourself in any part of the story? What are similarities or differences you see between you and Philip or the Ethiopian?**

Leader Note: This helps the group get more immersed in the story. Note that there are parts where we may be able to see ourselves in both Philip and the Ethiopian.

- 3. When is a time you stayed in pain and grief, not because it's comfortable, but because it was familiar?**

Leader Note: Remind the group that our scripture takes place after Jesus died and the disciples were grieving. It's normal, but God calls us out of our pain to use it for Him.

- 4. When we are saved, we become citizens of heaven, but that means leaving things behind. What are you scared or sad to leave behind?**

Leader Note: Even if we desire to follow Christ, it's hard to let go of the life we once lived. Have the group reflect on things they are scared or sad to let go when they start to follow God.

- 5. To look on the positive side, when we are citizens of heaven, what do we have to look forward to? What hope and freedom comes with following God?**

Leader Note: Connect this to the last question. We may be sad to leave things behind but what are the blessings we receive when we are citizens of heaven?

- 6. God redeems our pain, re-frames it, and uses it for His glory. Have you experienced this in your walk with Christ?**

Leader Note: Think about some of the things we've talked about in the last few weeks. We've all been through trials and hardship. Think about how that has shaped us into who we are.

- 7. We are called to be at peace but not necessarily live in our comfort zone. How do you differentiate peace and comfort?**

Leader Note: Comfort is not a bad thing but can keep us stagnant. Think about how peace encourages us to trust in God for what's new while comfort tries to keep us where we're at.

- 8. How do you think God is trying to use your upbringing, skills, and knowledge for His Kingdom?**

Leader Note: Think about things in your life that might give you a different perspective on the Gospel and how that could be used to explain it to others in a new light.

- 9. Is there an area in your life where you feel left out or like you don't belong, like the Ethiopian man?**

Leader Note: We all have places in our lives where we feel like the outsider. Encourage the group to be vulnerable and honest.

- 10. Once Philip shared the Good News, the Ethiopian man saw they were near water and asked to be baptized. How can we come back to having the same urgency with God?**

Leader Note: Maybe ask the group to share about when they were baptized and how they felt after. Think about how "on fire" we were when we first became a Christian.

Application and Prayer (10-15 minutes)

Think about the person who is your total opposite. How could you use your difference to help them to understand Christ? Philip was well versed in Scripture and now knew the meaning of the prophesy the Ethiopian man was reading. Philip was able to use the knowledge from his past and his new walk of life to explain the passage to the man, sharing the good news with him. What is something you could use to share the Gospel?

Closing Prayer Suggestion

Father thank you for teaching us through Philip and the Ethiopian. Use our experiences to shape us into the people you are calling us to be. Help us to be willing to follow your call and give us peace as you draw us out of complacency as you did for Philip. Embolden us like the Ethiopian man to ask for understanding and belonging where we feel left out.

Lord, You have brought us up according to Your plan and given us unique ways to reach people for Your Kingdom. I ask you to bless our skills and understanding so we can bring others to You. In your name we pray, amen.