

## THE WORK OF GOD: INVITED & INVOLVED Acts 8:26-34 (ESV)

### INVITED TO GOD'S WORK

12 *"Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. 13 Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. 14 If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.*

15 *"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. 16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, 17 even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.*

### INVOLVED IN GOD'S WORK: The life of Philip the Evangelist (Acts 6-8)

#### Acts 6:1-7 (ESV) – Philip Chosen to Serve

1 *Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. 2 And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. 3 Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. 4 But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." 5 And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. 6 These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them. 7 And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.*

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#### Acts 8:26-29(ESV) - Philip and the Ethiopian Eunuch

26 *Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Rise and go toward the south[d] to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is a desert place. 27 And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship 28 and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. 29 And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and join this chariot."*

### GOD'S NATURE:

1. GOD IS LOVE – HIS WAYS ARE ALWAYS BEST
  2. GOD IS ALL-KNOWING – HIS DIRECTIONS ARE ALWAYS RIGHT
  3. GOD IS ALL-POWERFUL – HE CAN ENABLE ME TO DO HIS WILL
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**Acts 8:30-40 (ESV)**

30 So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” 31 And he said, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. 32 Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this:

“Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter  
and like a lamb before its shearer is silent,  
so he opens not his mouth.

33 In his humiliation justice was denied him.  
Who can describe his generation?  
For his life is taken away from the earth.”

34 And the eunuch said to Philip, “About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” 35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus.

**WHAT ONLY GOD CAN DO:**

1. DRAW PEOPLE TO HIMSELF (JOHN 6:44)
2. CAUSE PEOPLE TO SEEK THE TRUTH (ROMANS 3)
3. REVEAL SPIRITUAL TRUTH (JOHN 16:13)
4. CONVICT THE WORLD ABOUT SIN, RIGHTEOUSNESS, AND JUDGMENT (JOHN 16:8)

36 And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, “See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?” 38 And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. 39 And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. 40 But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

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**Memory Verse – John 14:21 (ESV)** 21 Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him.”