

**Large Group Leader:**

Time	Slide	What to Do	Materials
10 minutes	1	Set up Computer with songs on Youtube, google slides powerpoint for today	
3 minutes	2	Start timer. Invite classes to join	Timer video
2 minutes	3	Welcome kids  Collect the offering: For the Philippines, to buy a sink.	Offering bag
	4	Birthdays: Sing Happy birthday to Easton DeJong (July 20, 4 years old), Remy Tolsma (July 23, 8 years old)	
2 minutes	5-7	<p>Call to Worship:</p> <p><b>Psalm 14 - which is being done in church today</b></p> <p><b>Leader:</b> Come, friends! Let's worship God together! Even when people forget Him, God is still with us.</p> <p><b>Kids:</b> God sees us! He watches over His people!</p> <p><b>Leader:</b> Some may say, "There is no God," but we know the truth—God is real and full of love!</p> <p><b>Kids:</b> We trust in the Lord! He is our safe place!</p> <p><b>Leader:</b> God is looking for hearts that follow Him. Let's give Him our hearts and our songs today!</p> <p><b>Kids:</b> We are God's children. We will praise Him with</p>	Bible

		joy!	
	8	New Song: Video  10,000 reasons  Focus on second verse	
	9	New Memory Verse: Galatians 5:22-23  But the Fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.	
	10	Song: The Fruit of the Spirit	
		Choose to do another song here using youtube if you want	
	11	Tell the story (see notes from story if you wish to tell it from here)	
3 minutes	12	Watch the video of the story	powerpoint
		Ask a few questions: see "Review the Bible Story" page 42 1) Who told Phillip to go to the chariot? 2) What did the man ask Philip? 3) How did the Ethiopian man show that he trusted Jesus?	
	14	Questions from kids: Play video: About praying for the persecuted church	
	15		
2 minutes	16	Pray with the kids Thank you Lord for sending Jesus to rescue us from our sins. Help us share the good news, like Philip did, with those around us. In Jesus' name, Amen.	
	17	Talk about the BINGO page "Where's the Word?" Encourage kids to continue to read the Bible at home and bring their paper back in when they get Bingo!	

1 minute	18	<p>Do the blessing with them:  May the Lord Bless You and Keep you.  May he make his face shine upon you and be  gracious to you. May the Lord show you His favour  and give you peace."</p>	





UNIT 31 | SESSION 4

## THE CHURCH SPREAD OUT

### ACTS 8

#### KEY PASSAGE:

Isaiah 53:5

#### BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

Why did Jesus become human? Jesus became human to obey His Father's plan and rescue sinners.

#### CHRIST CONNECTION:

The Holy Spirit led Philip to help the Ethiopian official understand the good news about Jesus: Jesus died on the cross for our sins and was raised from the dead, just like the Old Testament prophets said.



## PREPARE

### PRIOR TO TEACHING THE SESSION



#### PREPARE

PREPARE YOUR HEART  
TO TEACH; PLAN  
THE SESSION



#### WELCOME

GREET KIDS  
and OPEN  
THE SESSION



#### LEARN

TEACH KIDS  
THE STORY  
OF THE GOSPEL



#### LOVE

LEAD KIDS TO  
LOVE THE GOD  
OF THE GOSPEL



#### LIVE

LEAD KIDS TO  
LIVE OUT THE MISSION  
OF THE GOSPEL

## LEADER Bible Study

The story of the Ethiopian official's baptism began with an angel giving a command to Philip, an apostle of Jesus Christ. Philip's on-the-spot obedience led him to clarify the Scriptures and point the Ethiopian official to Christ. As a result of Philip's desire to live on mission, the Lord provided an opportunity for the gospel to spread further throughout the world.

In what ways did the context of Acts 8 seem inopportune for spreading God's Word? How did Philip's willingness to be led by the Holy Spirit play a part in this story of practical evangelism?

In the beginning of today's reading, we see the rippling effects of Stephen's stoning (Acts 7). Severe persecution broke out against the church in Jerusalem, and all but the apostles scattered while Saul ravaged the church. However, as these believers dispersed, they continued living on mission, preaching the Word of God boldly rather than cowering to their circumstances.

Making his way down the road God chose for him, Philip came across this traveling eunuch who needed someone to explain the meaning of Isaiah 53. Just as we read in Romans 10 that we cannot believe God's truth without hearing or having it preached, the Ethiopian official declared that he needed a

guide. While Philip did not know everything about the mysteries of God, he trusted that the Holy Spirit guided him down that desert road with divine purpose.

As you teach on the Lord's faithfulness amidst His people's trials, emphasize the simplicity of this story: a follower of Jesus stepped confidently into a situation where the Lord had gone before him. How can you show your kids that He will do just the same for them today as they share the gospel with others—just as you are relaying His truths to them in this story?

Teach kids that all who hear the good news of Jesus Christ and believe in Him are welcomed into God's kingdom. Like Philip, may we trust and obey the leading of the Holy Spirit for the sake of making the gospel known to others.

#### PEOPLE TO KNOW

**Ethiopian eunuch:** an unnamed person who was returning to his homeland after having been to Jerusalem to worship. His conversion illustrates the Christian faith transcending national boundaries.



## THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

### INTRODUCE the Bible Story

#### 1 INTRODUCE THE SESSION (3 minutes)

Show the countdown video as you transition to introduce the Bible story. Set it to end as the session begins.

**SAY** 🗣️ Welcome, kids! My name is [your name]. Today, we will be reading in the book of Acts again. If you have your Bible with you, will you take it out and place it in your lap? [Distribute Bibles to kids who need one.] Let's turn to Acts 8 as we get ready to hear our Bible story.

As we hear our story, we will learn how the Holy Spirit led Philip, an apostle, to a man from Ethiopia. The man from Ethiopia needed help understanding God's Word. We'll see how Philip listened and followed God's leading to help the man hear the good news of Jesus. 🙏

#### 2 BIG PICTURE QUESTION (1 minute)

**SAY** 🗣️ Just like our Bible story today will teach us how Philip helped the Ethiopian man understand the good news, our big picture question and answer reminds us of this good news too. What is our big picture question? [Allow responses.] **Why did Jesus become human?** What is the answer? [Allow responses.] **Jesus became human to obey His Father's plan and rescue sinners.**

God always had a plan to save sinners by sending His one and only Son, Jesus, to take the punishment for our sins. Today, our Bible story shows us how a book from the Old Testament called Isaiah pointed to Jesus' sacrifice. 🙏

#### 3 REVIEW THE TIMELINE (1 minute)

Show the giant timeline. Point to individual Bible stories as you review.

**SAY** 🗣️ The apostles and other believers were obedient to God's command to go and share the good news with the world. The Holy Spirit gave the apostles power and helped them boldly share the gospel. Even when Peter and John were arrested for sharing the gospel and told to be quiet, God gave them courage to keep sharing the good news.

Last week, we learned that a disciple named Stephen suffered and died for loving Jesus and sharing the good news. But this did not stop believers from continuing to share the gospel. Today, we will learn how the Holy Spirit led Philip to share the good news with a man from Ethiopia. 🙏



## THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

### LEARN the Bible Story

#### 1 TELL THE BIBLE STORY: VIDEO OR STORYTELLER (10 minutes)

Open your Bible to Acts 8. Use the Bible storytelling tips to help you tell the story, or show the Bible story video “The Church Spread Out.” Use the bold text to retell or review the story.

#### STORYTELLING TIPS

**Use a map:** Point to Ethiopia on a world map when you share how the man was from Ethiopia.

**Define baptize:** Remind kids that to *baptize* someone means to lower a person in the water and bring him back up. Tell kids that it is a command Jesus gave His followers and is a way for believers to publicly show they have confessed Jesus as Savior and Lord.

#### THE CHURCH SPREAD OUT

**An angel of the Lord told Philip, a follower of Jesus, to go to a desert road between Jerusalem and Gaza. So Philip went.**

**On the road was a man from Ethiopia.** He was an important official to the queen of Ethiopia. **The man had come to worship in Jerusalem,** and now he was on his way home. **He sat in his chariot, reading aloud the words of the prophet Isaiah.**

**The Holy Spirit told Philip to go to the chariot,** so Philip ran up to it. **“Do you understand what you are reading?” Philip asked the man.**

**The official replied, “How can I, unless someone explains it to me?”** He invited Philip into his chariot, and Philip sat with him. **The official was reading these words from Isaiah: “He was led like a sheep to the slaughter, and as a lamb is silent before its shearer, so He does not open His mouth. He was treated unfairly, and His life is taken away.”**

**The official asked, “Was Isaiah talking about himself or someone else?”** **Isaiah was talking about the Messiah, so Philip began to tell the man the good news about Jesus,** beginning with the words they had just read together.

**As they traveled down the road, they came to some water. “What would keep me from being baptized?” the official asked.**

**Then the official told the chariot to stop. He and Philip went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Holy Spirit took Philip away to another town, where he continued to travel and preach the gospel.** The official went home, and he was very happy.

Christ Connection: The Holy Spirit led Philip to help the Ethiopian official understand the good news about Jesus: Jesus died on the cross for our sins and was raised from the dead, just like the Old Testament prophets said.





## THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

### 2 REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

**SAY** 🗣️ Philip had followed Jesus and was one of His disciples. After Jesus went back to heaven, Philip joined the other disciples and was sent out to share the good news. One day, God sent Philip to a desert road between Jerusalem and Gaza. Philip obeyed and went to the road. Who told Philip to go to the chariot? **[Allow responses.]** The Holy Spirit led Philip to the Ethiopian's chariot. Philip heard the man reading aloud from the book of Isaiah.

The Ethiopian man needed help understanding what he was reading. What did the man ask Philip? **[Allow responses.]** The Ethiopian official asked Philip who Isaiah was writing about in the Scripture he was reading. Philip told the man that it was about Jesus, and he shared the good news. The verses in Isaiah were written long before Jesus came to earth, but they were about Jesus coming to die on the cross for our sin. **Jesus became human to obey His Father's plan and rescue sinners.**

After Philip shared the gospel and helped the Ethiopian man understand God's Word, the Ethiopian man wanted to follow Jesus. Philip followed the command God has for all believers to go and share the good news with the world. How did the Ethiopian man show he trusted in Jesus? **[Allow responses.]** The Ethiopian man wanted to be baptized. Philip was faithful to make a disciple, baptize him, and teach him God's Word.

We are called to go and share the gospel. As we go, God will lead us to people who need to hear the good news so they can believe in Jesus and be saved from their sins. 🙏

### 3 CHRIST CONNECTION

**SAY** 🗣️ The Holy Spirit led Philip to help the Ethiopian official understand the good news about Jesus: Jesus died on the cross for our sins and was raised from the dead, just like the Old Testament prophets said. 🙏

(Tip: Use Scripture and the Gospel Plan Poster to explain how to become a Christian. Make sure kids know when and where they can ask questions.)

### 4 QUESTIONS FROM KIDS (3 minutes)

Show the "Unit 31, Session 4" questions from kids video. Prompt kids to discuss:

1. What are the most important stories in the Bible to read?
2. How can you help others hear and understand the stories in the Bible?

### 5 MISSIONS MOMENT (3 minutes)

Display the "Jones Family Photo" as you tell the kids about the missionary family in Germany.

**SAY** 🗣️ Amy Jones learned that God wanted Christians to tell people from every nation, tribe, people group, and language about Jesus when she was a preschooler. Long before Amy became a missionary in Germany, she began praying for people in Europe after her mother returned from a trip to England. Amy learned that very few Europeans believed in Jesus, so she prayed they would trust in Him. 🙏



## THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

Tell kids that Casey and Amy Jones have worked with other missionaries from Germany, Egypt, Switzerland, India, Canada, the United Kingdom, and Brazil to tell the good news about Jesus to the German people. Remind kids that God desires His church to spread out to all parts of the world, including Germany. Pray that other missionaries will come to Germany to tell the people about Jesus and how He alone can save them from their sin.

### 6 KEY PASSAGE ACTIVITY (5 minutes)

Show the key passage poster. Lead kids in reading aloud Isaiah 53:5 together.

**SAY** 🗣️ Our key passage comes from the same the Ethiopian official was reading—Isaiah. It reminds us of the good news that Jesus came to save us from our sins. 🙏

Write the key passage on two dry erase boards but scramble some of the words. Form kids into two teams and invite a kid from each team to circle a word that is out of order. Lead the kids from their teams to say what the correct word is. Continue inviting different kids to circle words until every incorrect word is circled.

Lead kids to sing “By His Wounds (Isaiah 53:5).” You may also choose to sing a worship song of your choice.

### 7 PRAY (2 minutes)

Invite kids to pray before transitioning to Love.

**SAY** 🗣️ Thank You, Lord, for sending Jesus to rescue us from our sins. Help us share the good news, like Philip did, with those around us. In Jesus’ name, amen. 🙏

Transition from **LEARN** to **LOVE**

