

# S.A.F.E. Homes



Strengthening Apostolic Families Everywhere



*“But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.”*

*Acts 8: 12*

## A Vessel of God

Philip remembered the day the apostles laid their hands on him, Stephen, and several other men, and prayed for the Holy Ghost to use them as they served the new converts in Jerusalem (Acts 6:6-7). Now Stephen was dead, killed by the hands of hateful men who wanted to stop the message of Jesus Christ from spreading. But persecution did not stop the church. In fact, it caused the gospel to spread outside the city gates to other regions of the country.

***“Philip went down to the city of Samaria,” (Acts 8:6).*** There he preached about the power of Jesus’ name. Faith arose in the hearts of the people as they saw signs and miracles. The lame began walking, sick people were healed, and many who were possessed with unclean spirits were delivered by the miraculous power of God! ***“And there was great joy in that city,” (Acts 8: 8).***

In the midst of this great revival, with people being baptized and filled with the Holy Ghost, an angel spoke to Philip and told him to go into the desert. Without hesitation, he obeyed. ***“And he arose and went: and, behold, a man of Ethiopia, an eunuch of great authority under Candace queen of the Ethiopians, who had the charge of all her treasure, and had come to Jerusalem for to worship, was returning, and sitting in his chariot read Esaias the prophet,” (Acts 8: 27 – 28).***


“Do you understand what you’re reading?” Philip asked. “How can I understand unless someone explains it?” responded the Ethiopian man. From that moment, Philip began to preach about Jesus. The Ethiopian was baptized and went rejoicing on his way!

As Philip found out, there can be revival and miracles in the city with many people or in the desert with one individual, if we are willing to be a vessel He can flow through!

**Family Prayer: Lord Jesus, I want to be a witness to the world about Your saving and healing power. Let me be a vessel that You can work through. In Jesus’ Name. Amen.**



Includes  
Family  
Activities



Want more?  
Scroll down for  
Bonus Pages

Looking



Inward

Gather the family together and play an old-fashioned game of Hide-and-Seek. Philip went down to Samaria and found people hungry for God. Then he went to the desert and found a man there searching for truth. Play until everyone has a chance to be "It." Have fun!

Let's talk

Have you ever been asked to do something around the church that you thought was small and insignificant? Did you think you could have been doing bigger, more important things? What was your attitude about it? Discuss Matthew 25:23.

Look for opportunities to serve in the church. Whether it is something visible such as teaching a class or something that may not be noticed, such as picking up trash, it is all important in the kingdom of God. Find ways to be used, even if God is the only one who notices!

Looking



Outward

## Additional Challenges

There is another interesting part of the story which we do not read about in today's devotion. Check out Acts, chapter 8, to find the details.

- Someone used sorcery to bewitch the people of Samaria. What was his name?  
\_\_\_\_\_

- Did the people think his power came from God? \_\_\_\_\_

- What did the people do when they heard Philip preach about Christ?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- "Then \_\_\_\_\_ himself \_\_\_\_\_ also: and when he was \_\_\_\_\_, he \_\_\_\_\_ with Philip..."

- Who came from Jerusalem to see what was happening in Samaria?  
\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

- What happened when they laid their hands on the people? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- What did Simon offer the apostles so that he could have the same power they had?  
\_\_\_\_\_

- Peter said, "Thy \_\_\_\_\_ perish with thee, because thou hast thought that the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ may be purchased with \_\_\_\_\_."

- What was Simon's answer to Peter? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*God's still recognizes true repentance. Like Simon, if our heart and motives are not pure, we need to bow before God with an humble heart and be freed from the impure thinking of this world.*

**Find the hidden message!**

B E A V E S S E L O F G O D G  
S U O L U C A R I M Z W P C L  
F A I T H D M C Z X O W A A X  
A I R A M A S Q C J L N V M R  
P L Y O Y O C E B J D I L B C  
H U E W M A J A G A V E H Q X  
L C K G J E I Y C E S X P J H  
G R U A N P L E R S Y P X N O  
H U Z N O A P A E M O O E F Z  
W Z N I U Y H V S W P H J B A  
T L H T D E I R E U P Y T Y F  
X T R H G U L R A E R K R M H  
E R W D F R L S T D L E J Z V  
G P N V T Z I S C C B V J J B  
B K A Y B O P H D E S S E R T

ANGEL  
ETHIOPIA  
JERUSALEM  
PHILLIP  
SAMARIA

CANDACE  
EUNUCH  
JOY  
POWER  
STEPHEN

DESSERT  
FAITH  
MIRACULOUS  
REVIVAL  
VESSEL

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