

IN A PUDDLE

BAPTISM



- Read John 8:26-39
- We do know when God is ready, He will give us direction. Philip was in an area where large numbers of people were being reached and yet he didn't question why he was being removed to go to Gaza. He simply got up and went. He followed God's direction. When God directs us to someone keep in mind that He is already at work in their life... verses 27-29. What helped Philip respond faithfully to the instruction? What helps you respond faithfully?
- Baptism is an act of obedience to Jesus who said go into all the world and baptize in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. It was an act of obedience on Philip's part to baptize the Ethiopian and an act of obedience on his part to be baptized. Baptism is the way we show others we mean business. It is the outward way of telling people about the change that's taken place inside of us. Read verse 39, why do you suppose the Ethiopian went on his way rejoicing after his baptism? If you have been baptized, what effect did your baptism have on you? If not is there a reason why?
- At some point God will call us to places we never expected. If we follow God's call to strange places in the middle of nowhere, we may find that God has already visited these strange places and that God has already set the stage for our task, our calling. Philip was obedient to God's leading. Are we always? Why not?

APPLICATION

Philip asked the man “do you understand what you are reading”?

The man says, “how can I unless someone explains it to me”?

Guess what? We are that someone. This story is our sign to move forward. God’s timing is important. We are no different than Philip

when it comes to our role in explaining to someone what they don’t understand about Jesus because the impossibility of either one happening without the leading of God is the same. We must be obedient to God’s calling. Without the obedience of Philip, this

Ethiopian would not have known Christ. Philip was led by God.

The Ethiopian didn’t know God, but God knew him. Philip trusts

God when He said go. That’s faith. Water in the desert is hard to find. Only God could have arranged this. We trust in God’s leading.

When He guides, we listen. When He directs, we obey. What made

Philip’s witness successful wasn’t his technique in evangelism but his obedience to God. Sounds like a very clear message for us.

S.O.A.P. (Scripture|Observation|Application|Prayer)

Monday John 8:32-22

Thursday . . . John 14:21

Tuesday Proverbs 3:1-2

Friday James 2:14-24

Wednesday . John 13:34-35

NOTES

