**Message: Searching So Long**

**Ronnie Norman, Senior Minister**

***Acts 8:26-40***

*26Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Go south to the road—the desert road—that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.”*

[*http://www.jesuswalk.com/voice/maps/philip-the-evangelists-travels-2213x1716x300.jpg*](http://www.jesuswalk.com/voice/maps/philip-the-evangelists-travels-2213x1716x300.jpg)

*27So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian[*[*a*](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=acts+8&version=NIV#fen-NIV-27204a)*] eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of the Kandake (which means “queen of the Ethiopians”). This man had gone to Jerusalem to worship, 28and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the Book of Isaiah the prophet. 29The Spirit told Philip, “Go to that chariot and stay near it.”*

*30Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. “Do you understand what you are reading?” Philip asked.*

*31“How can I,” he said, “unless someone explains it to me?” So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.*

*32This is the passage of Scripture the eunuch was reading:*

*“He was led like a sheep to the slaughter,  
    and as a lamb before its shearer is silent,  
    so he did not open his mouth.  
33In his humiliation he was deprived of justice.  
    Who can speak of his descendants?  
    For his life was taken from the earth.”*

*34The eunuch asked Philip, “Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?” 35Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus.*

***JESUS IS SERIES GRAPHIC***

*36As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water. What can stand in the way of my being baptized?” [37] [*[*c*](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=acts+8&version=NIV#fen-NIV-27214c)*] 38And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him.*

[*Acts 8:37*](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=acts+8&version=NIV#en-NIV-27214) *Some manuscripts include here Philip said, “If you believe with all your heart, you may.” The eunuch answered, “I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.”*

*39When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord suddenly took Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing. 40Philip, however, appeared at Azotus and traveled about, preaching the gospel in all the towns until he reached Caesarea.*

1. **God welcomes all, do you?**
2. **The Spirit is working, will you?**

<https://youtu.be/4OAAJwnMNRQ>

1. **The water is ready, are you?**