



Part 4: Crossing the Line
of Obedience

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Crossing the Line in Acts Chapter 8

Crossing the line of direction

Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Go south to the road—the desert road—that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians. This man had gone to Jerusalem to worship, and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the book of Isaiah the prophet. The Spirit told Philip, "Go to that chariot and stay near it." – *Acts 8:26-29*

Application: Go when the Holy Spirit says "Go!"

Crossing the line of opportunity

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

"How can I," he said, "unless someone explains it to me?" So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. – *Acts 8:30*

Application: Act when the Holy Spirit says "Act!"

Crossing the line of honesty

The eunuch was reading this passage of Scripture:

"He was led like a sheep to the slaughter,
and as a lamb before the shearer is silent,
so he did not open his mouth.

In his humiliation he was deprived of justice.
Who can speak of his descendants?
For his life was taken from the earth."

The eunuch asked Philip, "Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?" – *Acts 8:31*

Application: When you don't know an answer, ask!

Suggestion: Be prepared with a humble answer and don't be afraid to say, "I don't know but I'll find out!"

Crossing the line of boldness

Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus. – *Acts 8:35*

Application: When in doubt – speak about Jesus! Don't talk about what you have done for him; brag about what he has done for you.

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Crossing the line of obedience

As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water. Why shouldn't I be baptized?" And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him. When 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. Philip, however, appeared at Azotus and traveled about, preaching the gospel in all the towns until he reached Caesarea. – Acts 8:36-40

Application: Stop with the excuses and obey!

Next Steps

Be baptized in one of this weekend's services.

Small Group Discussion Questions



- 1) Have you ever experienced car trouble and had someone stop to help? What did the person do to help you? What did you do in return?
- 2) Has God ever told you to do something? What did God say, and did you obey?
- 3) Philip is both available and obedient to a point where God uses him powerfully in another person's life. What makes a person both available and obedient?
- 4) What is a deep spiritual question that has troubled you for years? Ask the group and then go find answers together.
- 5) Have you been baptized? Why did you cross that line?
- 6) How can we pray for you tonight?