Sermon Discussion (8/17/2025)

The Church is Born / Acts 8:26-38

The church is growing. The more it grows the more it threatens the power structure in place. The church is being scattered but "along the way" they are preaching "Jesus."

Title: On a Journey

Points to Consider

- 1. The journey is a choice.
- 2. The journey happens "on the way".
- 3. The journey has its ups and downs.
- 4. The journey requires other people.

Scripture References:

Acts 8:26-38 NIV

²⁶ Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Go south to the road—the desert road—that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." ²⁷ So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian 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, ²⁸ and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the Book of Isaiah the prophet. ²⁹ The Spirit told Philip, "Go to that chariot and stay near it." ³⁰ Then 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. 32 This 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. 33 In his humiliation he was deprived of justice. Who can speak of his descendants? For his life was taken from the earth." 34 The eunuch asked Philip, "Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?" 35 Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus. 36 As 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 38} And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him.

Application Questions

 How would you describe "the Christian journey?" Another way of saying it would be "the Christian walk."

Love God / Invitation / Relationship

We experience the love of God when we invite Him into our lives.

- Read <u>Acts 8:26-38</u>.
- Where is the invitation to love God in this passage?
- Who is making it?
- What is needed for God to be known?

Find Freedom / Learning / Clarity

Freedom is found when we learn a new way to think.

- In this passage God is teaching the people to think differently. Is the eunuch free?
- What allows him to ask for help?
- Are you free when you can ask for help?

See God / Prayer / Affirmation

It is much easier for us to "see" God when we are communicating with God.

Prayer is how we communicate with God.

- How is God communicating with the eunuch in this passage?
- What is required for the communication to be complete?
- Who can see God in this passage?

Experience Healing / Serve Others / Opportunities

The brokenness in our hearts begins to heal as we serve other people.

- Who is serving and who is being served in this passage?
- What kind of healing does this produce?

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Discover Joy / Gratitude / Community

The more grateful we are the more joy we feel.

- Can you find any gratitude in this passage?
- Where is the joy?
- How is joy demonstrated?