

Revival & Reformation

Lesson 4 – Witness and Service: The Fruit of Revival

1. Pull out your smart phone
2. Send a text to 99000 with a message saying “getapp”
3. You will receive a link to a website that includes a description of the app and where to go to install it.

Acts 1:8 NKJV “*But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth*”

Christ’s Parting Commission and Promise

Matthew 28:19–20 *Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,²⁰ teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Amen.*

***Mark 16:15–16** (NKJV) *And He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.¹⁶ He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.*

Luke 24:46–48 (NKJV) *Then He said to them, “Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day,⁴⁷ and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. And you are witnesses of these things.*

John 20:21–22 (NKJV)²¹ *So Jesus said to them again, “Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.”²² And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit.*

God Wants All Saved

1 Timothy 2:4 (NKJV) *who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.*

2 Peter 3:9 (NKJV) *The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.*

***Ezekiel 18:23** (NKJV)²³ *Do I have any pleasure at all that the wicked should die?” says the Lord God, “and not that he should turn from his ways and live?*

Revelation 22:17 (NKJV) *And the Spirit and the bride say, “Come!” And let him who hears say, “Come!” And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely.*

Receiving the Promise

Acts 2:40–41 (NKJV) *And with many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, “Be saved from this perverse generation.”⁴¹ Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about **three thousand souls** were added to them.*

Acts 4:4 (NKJV) *However, many of those who heard the word believed; and the number of the men came to be **about five thousand.***

***Matthew 4:18–20** (NKJV) *And Jesus, walking by the Sea of Galilee, saw two brothers, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen.¹⁹ Then He said to them, “**Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.**”²⁰ They immediately left their nets and followed Him.*

Luke 5:9–11 *For he and all who were with him were astonished at the catch of fish which they had taken;¹⁰ and so also were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, “**Do not be afraid. From now on you will catch men.**”¹¹ So when they had brought their boats to land, they forsook all and followed Him.*

The Power of Personal Testimony

John 1:40–41 (NKJV) *One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother.⁴¹ He first **found** his own brother Simon, and said to him, “We have **found** the Messiah” (which is translated, the Christ).⁴² And he brought him to Jesus.*

John 1:44–46⁴⁴ *Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter.⁴⁵ Philip **found** Nathanael and said to him, “We have **found** Him of whom Moses in the law, and also the prophets, wrote—Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.”⁴⁶ And Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.”*

***John 4:28–30** (NKJV) *The woman then left her water pot, went her way into the city, and said to the men,²⁹ “**Come, see** a Man who told me all things that I ever did. Could this be the Christ?”³⁰ Then they went out of the city and came to Him.*

The expression on our face says a lot.

Acts 22:6–8 (NKJV) *“Now it happened, as I journeyed and came near Damascus at about noon, suddenly a great light from heaven shone around me.⁷ And I fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to me, ‘**Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?**’⁸ So I answered, ‘Who are You, Lord?’ And He said to me, ‘**I am Jesus of Nazareth, whom you are persecuting.**’*

Blind healed man gave out cards on train

“Our confession of His faithfulness is Heaven’s chosen agency for revealing Christ to the world. We are to acknowledge His grace as made known through the holy men of old; but that which will be most effectual is the testimony of our own experience. We are witnesses for God as we reveal in ourselves the working of a power that is divine.”- DA p. 347

1 John 1:1–4 *That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life the life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ. ⁴ And these things we write to you that your joy may be full.*

A Witnessing Faith Is a Growing Faith

Daniel in the lion’s den, the three Hebrews in the fire witnessed.

Acts 20:35 (NKJV) *I have shown you in every way, by laboring like this, that you must support the weak. And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’ ”*

***Matthew 10:8** *Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give.*

Everyone should get involved in some way.

Matthew 14:15–21 (NKJV) ¹⁵ *When it was evening, His disciples came to Him, saying, “This is a deserted place, and the hour is already late. Send the multitudes away, that they may go into the villages and buy themselves food.” ¹⁶ But Jesus said to them, “They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat.” ¹⁷ And they said to Him, “We have here **only five loaves and two fish.**” ¹⁸ He said, “Bring them here to Me.” ¹⁹ Then He commanded the multitudes to sit down on the grass. And He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, He blessed and broke and gave the loaves to the disciples; and the disciples gave to the multitudes. ²⁰ So they all ate and were filled, and they took up twelve baskets full of the fragments that remained. ²¹ Now those who had eaten were about five thousand men, besides women and children. **More miracles tend to happen during ministry and war.***

Revival, Witnessing, and Divine Intervention

***Acts 5:42** NKJV *“And daily in the temple, and in every house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ”.*

Acts 8:1 (NKJV) *...At that time a great persecution arose against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles.*

Acts 8:4 (NKJV) *Therefore those who were scattered went everywhere preaching the word.*

Philip’s trip Read Acts 8:26–40 A short Mission trip

“An angel guided Philip to the one who was seeking for light and who was ready to receive the gospel, and today angels will guide the footsteps of those workers who will allow the Holy Spirit to sanctify their tongues and refine and ennoble their hearts. The angel sent to Philip could himself have done the work for the Ethiopian, but this is not God’s way of working. It is His plan that men are to work for their fellow men.”

-Ellen G. White, *The Acts of the Apostles*, p. 109.

“God could have reached His object in saving sinners without our aid; but in order for us to develop a character like Christ’s, we must share in His work. In order to enter into His joy,-the joy of seeing souls redeemed by His sacrifice,-we must participate in His labors for their redemption.”- Ellen G. White, *The Desire of Ages*, p. 142.

Philip - A lover of horses

Acts 8:26 *Now an angel of the Lord spoke to Philip, saying, “Arise and go toward the south along the road which goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” This is desert. 50 miles “Angel of the Lord” found 12 times in NT*

This Philip cannot refer to Philip the apostle, since vs.1 specifically states that the apostles remained in Jerusalem. The reference must be to the deacon by that name (ch. 6:5). Because he was conspicuous in this early evangelism, he was afterward known as Philip the evangelist (ch. 21:8).

Ch 7 talks about the work of Stephen now Ch 8 speaks of Philip.

Acts 6:5 *...and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolas a proselyte of Antioch:*

Arise and go found 11 times so he arose and went.

The supernatural call may well have come in an angelic vision.

Philip does not ask why or what but he goes. The road which he is to take is marked out; but what he is to do in that road, or how far he is to proceed, he is not told! It is GOD who employs him, and requires of him implicit obedience. Like Abraham he follows by faith.

God often speaks in the desert.

Isa 30:21 *Your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, "This is the way, walk in it," Whenever you turn to the right hand Or whenever you turn to the left.*

Ethiopia

Acts 8:27 *So he arose and went. And behold, a man of Ethiopia, a eunuch of great authority under Candace the queen of the Ethiopians, who had charge of all her treasury, and had come to Jerusalem to worship,*

Ethiopia, in the OT, is a general name given to the country south of the first cataract of the Nile. A possible 800 mile Pilgrimage.

Psa 68:31 *Princes shall come out of Egypt; Ethiopia shall soon stretch out her hands unto God.*

Num 12:1 *And Miriam and Aaron spake against Moses because of the Ethiopian woman whom he had married: for he had married an Ethiopian woman.*

2 Chr 16:8 *"Were the Ethiopians and the Lubim not a huge army with very many chariots and horsemen? Yet, because you relied on the LORD, He delivered them into your hand.*

The Queen of Sheba could have introduced this knowledge of God.

The Ethiopian eunuch Ebed-melech, in the time of Jeremiah 38.

Eunuchs

The Hebrew word translated eunuch could be used of any court official (At Gen. 37:36 and 39:1 the reference is to a married man). (presumably as a Jewish convert. As a eunuch, he would be restricted in his ability to worship, Deuteronomy 23:1). Greek, a chamberlain (state-officer):

Eunuch were excluded from the Temple **Deut. 23:1**

Isa 56:4, 5 *For thus saith the LORD unto the eunuchs that keep my sabbaths, and choose the things that please me, and take hold of my covenant; Even unto them will I give in mine house and within my walls a place and a name better than of sons and of daughters: I will give them an everlasting name, that shall not be cut off.*

Pray to Understand

Acts 8:28, 29 *was returning. And sitting in his chariot, he was reading Isaiah the prophet. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go near and overtake this chariot." Rush Limbaugh's Cochlear Implant Surgery.*

God always draws near those who read with a desire to understand.

Acts 8:30 *So Philip ran to him, and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah, and said, "Do you understand what you are reading?"*

Our Lord Jesus Christ interpreted many Old Testament passages to His disciples, *"And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself"* (Lk.24: 27).

Acts 8:31 *And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he asked Philip to come up and sit with him.*

I think he was praying for help to understand.

I picked up a black man in the desert who taught me.

Acts 8:32-34 *The place in the Scripture which he read was this:*

"He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; And as a lamb before its shearer is silent, So He opened not His mouth. In His humiliation His justice was taken away, And who will declare His generation? For His life is taken from the earth."

So the eunuch answered Philip and said, "I ask you, of whom does the prophet say this, of himself or of some other man?"

In reading the word of God, we should often pause, to inquire of whom and of what the sacred writers spoke; but especially our thoughts should be employed about the Redeemer.

Acts 8:35 *Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning at this Scripture, preached Jesus to him. Christ and Him Crucified.*

Obeying The Word

Acts 8:36 *Now as they went down the road, they came to some water. And the eunuch said, "See, here is water. **Gina Delaca,***

God will provide a way and a place if we are willing.

What hinders me from being baptized?" *What hinders you?*

Acts 8:37 *Then Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God."*

Acts 8:38, 39 *So he commanded the chariot to stand still. And both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him. Now when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught Philip away, so that the eunuch saw him no more; and he went on his way rejoicing.*

HE WORSHIPED

HE READ

HE ASKED FOR UNDERSTANDING

HE BELIEVED

HE OBEYED

HE WENT

HE REJOICED

Acts 8:40 *But Philip was found at Azotus.* (Azotus [uh-ZOH-tus] Greek name for Ashdod 20 miles from Gaza.) *And passing through, he preached in all the cities till he came to Caesarea.*

Acts 21:8 *And the next day we that were of Paul's company departed, and came unto Caesarea: and we entered into the house of Philip the evangelist, which was one of the seven; and abode with him.*

1 John 2:27 *But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and you do not need that anyone teach you; but as the same anointing teaches you concerning all things, and is true, and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you will abide in Him.*

The Coptic church

Jesuits tried to induce the Abyssinian church to accept Roman Catholicism. They influenced King Zadenghel to propose to submit to the Papacy (A.D.1604). "Prohibiting all his subjects, upon severe penalties, to observe Saturday any longer." Gedde's "Church History of Ethiopia." p.311, also Gibbon's "Decline and Fall," ch. 47

It was the famous whose memory Christ honoured the Queen of Sheba referred to her as the "Queen of the South" who came to Jerusalem to meet King Solomon. A philosopher and truth-seeker in her own right, she came to accept the One God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and brought the religion of Israel home with her. Legend has it that of all the women he knew, he loved Queen Makeda the most. But she was the one that got away! Solomon was so taken by her that he had a brief, but passionate love affair with her. The Queen became pregnant, however, and gave birth to Ethiopia's first Emperor, Menelik I. Menelik later went on pilgrimage to Jerusalem to see "dear old dad" who received him warmly.

Legend has it that Menelik, apparently feeling that he needed one more souvenir of his visit, took the Tablets of the Law with him to Ethiopia where he deposited the Ark at the religious capital of Axum. They are there to this day and it is forbidden to gaze upon them!

USS NAUTILUS - It's amazing to me how the ancient explorers knew their exact location simply based on Sun moon and stars. Between 1768 and 1775 the famous British explorer James Cook made two voyages

around the world charting much of the South Pacific, using nothing more than a sextant, a simple compass, and the heavens above for navigation. For years submarine navigation was a much bigger problem. The secret vessels had to frequently surface to get their basic bearings, thus exposing themselves to enemy fire.

But eventually the navy developed the internal Marine gyro navigation system. This sophisticated apparatus was able to give the subs a precise fix on their location isolated deep beneath a dark ocean.

This independent internal navigation system was fully proven when in 1958, with 116 men aboard, the nuclear-powered USS NAUTILUS accomplished the "impossible" becoming the first submarine to traverse the Arctic Ocean under the polar ice. It went from the Bering Strait to Iceland via the North Pole in four days. Because they were unable to surface, if during the crossing the navigation system had failed the crew would have been doomed.

In this world of constantly changing values we also need a dependable navigation system to guide our lives.