CHRIST CHURCH
CHORLEYWOOD

HOME GROUP STUDY
22nd November 2026

Series: Developing our Vision – Sharing Christ…with those in power
Acts 8 v26-40

26 Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Rise and go towards the south[d] to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is a desert place. 27 And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship 28 and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. 29 And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and join this chariot." 30 So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" 31 And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. 32 Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter
and like a lamb before its shearer is silent,
so he opens not his mouth.
33 In his humiliation justice was denied him.
Who can describe his generation?
For his life is taken away from the earth."

34 And the eunuch said to Philip, "About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" 35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. 36 And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?"[e] 38 And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. 39 And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. 40 But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

QUESTIONS

GOD HAS A POWERFUL PLAN FOR EVERYONE WHO IS CENTRED ON CHRIST AND LED BY HIS SPIRIT!

Icebreaker: whose the most powerful person you have met in person?

1. BE CENTRED ON CHRIST
1.2 Understand the fulness of salvation

And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship 28 and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. 29 And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and join this chariot." 30 So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" 31 And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. 32 Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this:

“Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter
and like a lamb before its shearer is silent,
so he opens not his mouth.
33 In his humiliation justice was denied him.
Who can describe his generation?
For his life is taken away from the earth.”

34 And the eunuch said to Philip, “About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” 35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus

Q1: What were the particular difficulties you had understanding Christianity before you cam to faith?

Q2: How confident are you in explaining to others the “good news about Jesus” (v35)?

1.2 Publicly display your faith to others
36 And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, “See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?” 38 And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. 39 And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing.

Q3: Have you been baptised or renewed baptism vows as a believing adult if you were baptised as a baby? If not why not?

Q4: We are visiting and praying for the parish on Saturday morning, what stops you joining us?

2. BE LED BY THE SPIRIT
2.1 Obey God in the desert
26 Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Rise and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” This is a desert place. 27 And he rose and went.

Q5: What are the challenges associated with obeying God in the desert if we take illness, bereavement, difficulty or loss as “desert” experiences?

2.2 Be open to new opportunities
39 And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. 40 But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Q6: What new opportunities do you think God is opening up for you right now?

PRAYER
Loving Heavenly Father help my life to be centred on Christ, understanding the fulness of salvation and publicly declaring my faith to others. I surrender my life to you; to be led by your Spirit. Help me obey you in the desert and be open to new opportunities you send my way. Thank you that you have a powerful plan for everyone who is centred on Christ and led by your Spirit, for the sake of your Son, my Saviour Jesus Christ and in the power of your mighty Holy Spirit. Amen.