4Ws TRUE L VE WINS

TRUE LOVE WINS: SHARE IT!

MARCH 6, 2022

WORD

WORSHIP

Alive, Greater Than, The Love of Jesus

WELCOME

When was the last time you gave away something highly valuable to you? ACTS 8:5-6, 26-29, 35-36

⁵ Philip went down to the city of Samaria and began proclaiming Christ to them. ⁶ The crowds with one accord were giving attention to what was said by Philip, as they heard and saw the signs which he was performing... ²⁶ But an angel of the Lord spoke to Philip saying, "Get up and go south to the road that descends from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a desert road.) ²⁷ So he got up and went; and there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure; and he had come to Jerusalem to worship, ²⁸ and he was returning and sitting in his chariot, and was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹ Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go up and join this chariot."... ³⁵ Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning from this Scripture he preached Jesus to him. ³⁶ As they went along the road they came to some water: and the eunuch *said, "Look! Water! What prevents me from being baptized?"

The latest installment to our True Love Wins Series reminds all of us that LOVE IS MEANT TO BE SHARED. **Proverbs 27:5** even emphasizes how love shouldn't be concealed. How are we going to share this love? We looked at two main characters to see how we can share TRUE LOVE to others:

PHILIP: ONE SERVANT CAN MAKE AN IMPACT (Acts 8:1, Acts 1:8, Acts 8:4-12, 27-28)

The effect of the persecution that arose in Jerusalem (**Acts 7-8**), the Christians were scattered throughout Judea and Samaria. But even in this apparent tragedy, we see the sovereignty of God as it has been instrumental for them to fulfill the instruction in Acts 1:8.

We were introduced to Philip, one of the 7 men selected to serve as waiters in the fast-growing church in Jerusalem (**Acts 6:1,3,5**). Because the standards for choosing these 7 men were high, we would expect to see Philip act despite the persecution happening. Philip indeed showed an attitude of servant heart when he decided to proceed to Samaria, a place where Jews are so judgmental against, and shared the Good News there. We read that Philip's ministry in Samaria has been very great, as many people have come to believe. It is a comfortable place to settle in, but Philip was told to go somewhere else. Philip followed the command of the "angel of the Lord" – and he went back to Jerusalem and proceeded to Gaza, which is a desert road (**Acts 8:26-27**).

Through Philip we see that a servant that makes an impact for the Lord is someone who has a servant heart, is Spirit-filled and able to share the gospel by both "walk" and words. Now if you were Philip, how would you respond? Will you hesitate to obey? Will you reason out and fight to stay in your comfort zone? Philip, although not knowing what was in store for him in that journey down south, willingly obeyed and fulfilled the command of God. On that road, he would meet the next character in our study:

ETHIOPIAN EUNUCH: ONE SOUL IS PRECIOUS TO GOD (Acts 8:27-39)

A highly trusted, powerful, and God-fearing man, the Ethiopian eunuch came FROM Jerusalem where he worshipped God. He was a real seeker of God. At the exact moment while he was reading the scrolls of ISAIAH, Philip was led to meet him and start a conversation with him. He simply asked if the eunuch was able to understand what he was reading, and the eunuch admitted that he couldn't, unless someone explains it to him. With this, he invites Philip to explain the things that he was reading in

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Scripture. In a way, Philip was sent to this dusty, desert part of the land, at that exact time, to minister to the eunuch. He fulfills what Paul would be writing about in **Romans 10:14-15** – he is to preach or declare the good news.

The eunuch and Philip conversed about Jesus and all the things leading up to His story. Philip simply opened his mouth (**Acts 8:35**) and as he was speaking, went on to share the Gospel to the Ethiopian eunuch.

In the Ethiopian eunuch's life, we see that success does not satisfy; he had all the power and riches, but he still was in search for the truth. He fulfills Jesus' challenge to "seek and find", and he reached the point where he was very much willing to surrender to Jesus.

Some of us will have to emulate PHILIP. A willing servant who made an impact in Samaria already, still went the long way just to follow the call to minister to this one person from Ethiopia. How can we follow his example? We must PRAY, CARE, and SHARE.

Our lives can also be similar to the Ethiopian eunuch – having everything, you come to a point of realization that there is still something missing, and you will only be able to feel truly complete when you finally encounter the Gospel Truth (**Jeremiah 29:13**; **Romans 10:9-10**).

Whoever it is that you relate to, we are pointed to one singular character Who is essential to the entire piece of the story. The eunuch and Philip were reading the prophet ISAIAH, and **Isaiah 53:3-6** perfectly defines who JESUS is for us, and what He has gone through in order to give us access to His promise through His death and resurrection.

True LOVE – the kind of love that gives despite the imperfections, and sometimes even rejections – is a love that is meant to be shared and passed on to others. **This love is best captured in the love of Christ**. Have you been sharing this love to others? It's time to roll up our sleeves and work for this love to be known in the world. May we all let our light shine and be useful servants in the Kingdom of God.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

(Leaders: Please choose questions that are appropriate to the level of spiritual maturity of your members)

1. Self-Check.

How did you personally experience the true and transforming love of Jesus in your life?

2. Setting It Right. What keeps you from sharing the love of Jesus to others?

3. Living It Out. How can you be more intentional in sharing the love of Jesus?

WORKS PRAY CARE SHARE IN ACTION

Pray for and with family and friends—especially those you spend a lot of time with. Care for them through little acts of kindness consistently and invest the time to share with them your story about your life before you met Jesus, when and how you came to know Jesus as Savior and Lord, and how Christ has transformed, and continues to change you and your life, since then. Let them know that each of them is so precious to Jesus. Share the gospel to at least one person this week!

WEEKLY PRAYER POINTS

I. Thanksgiving

• Worship God for who He is, what He has done, and what He will do in our lives

II. Country and the World

Upright and moral governance of Public Servants and a God-centered Philippines; their repentance and salvation
For the Russian invasion of Ukraine to stop; peace and order be restored, lives spared. Russian and Ukrainian soldiers, families, leaders to turn to Christ; refugees be given safe passage into surrounding nations.n

III. Church

That CCF Members would honor and love God and make disciples
Elders, Pastors, Leaders, and Families

worldwide

IV. CCF Facilities

Worship and Training CenterPrayer Mountain

V. Personal Concerns

Deeper intimate relationship

Diabteous living

Salvation of family and friends

MEMORY VERSE

ACTS 8:35

Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning from this Scripture he preached Jesus to him.