

Family Worship

Philip's Adventures

11·10·2020

Opening Prayer

Our Heavenly Father, thank you for our family.

And thank you for the privilege of coming together for worship.

Help us to understand Your Word and obey it with a joyful heart.

In Jesus name, we pray. Amen.

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Let Praise Arise

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CfYmsU0xbf4>



Catechism Time!

Bible truths for teaching children

Question 20

Q: Who is the Redeemer?

A: The only Redeemer is the Lord Jesus Christ.

What does the word "redeemer" mean?

- Dictionary: A redeemer is a person who redeems, meaning someone who saves or exchanges something for something else.
- Jesus Christ is our Redeemer because he died for us and saves us from eternal death.

Bible verse (1 Timothy 2:5)

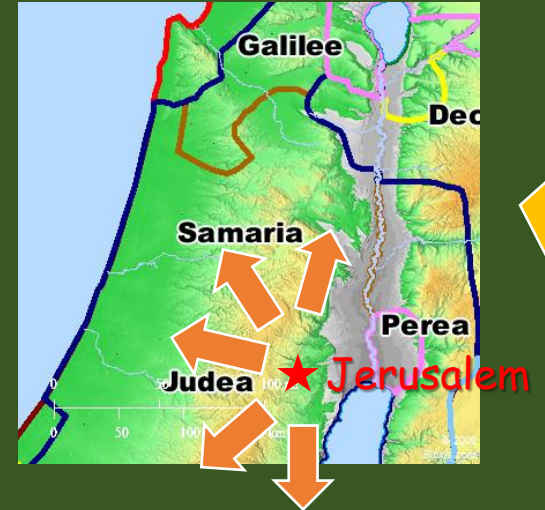
For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.

Last Week We Learnt...

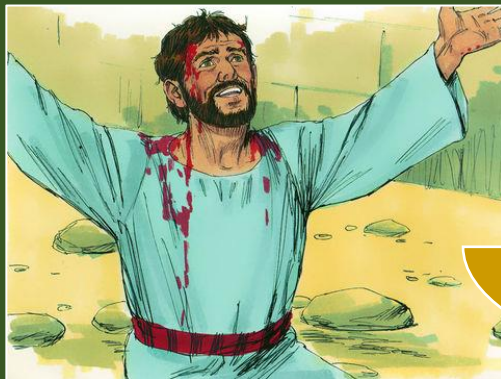
1. The Early Church in Jerusalem was growing fast. Believers loved each other and shared the Good News of Jesus



4. Christians spread the Good News everywhere they went!



2. Stephen defended the Good News and was killed by his opponents



3. Jewish leaders started to hurt (persecute) Christians in Jerusalem, so many went to Judea & Samaria



Stephen

This Week...Let's Meet Philip !

Who was Philip?
Was he one of the 12 Apostles?



Not me...Although I
am one of the Twelve,
I stayed in Jerusalem
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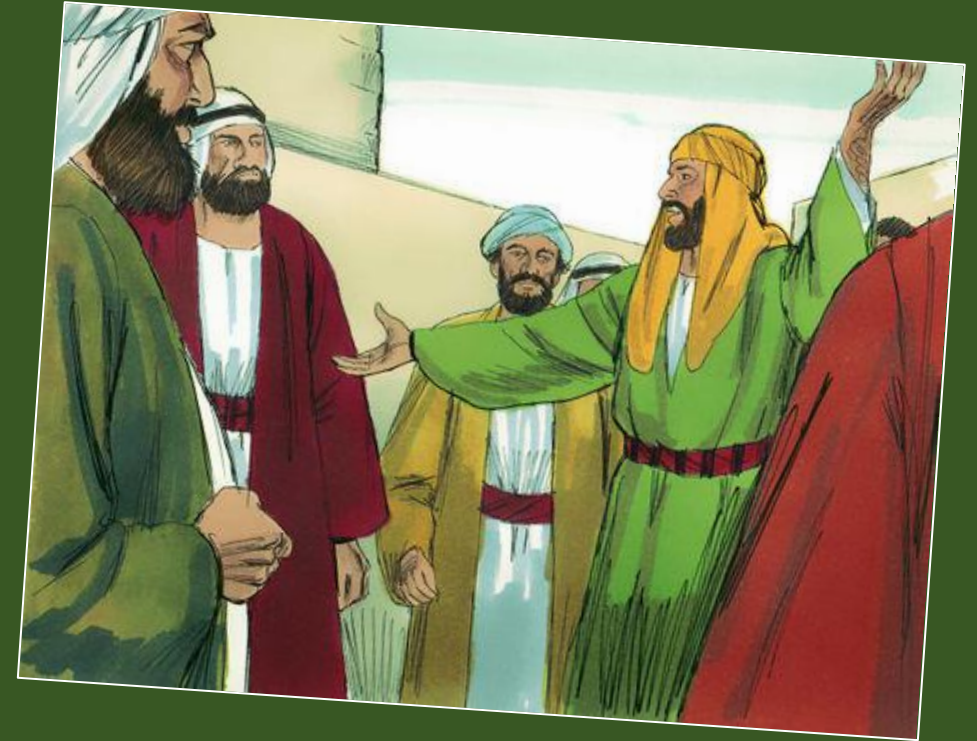
- ❑ Actually, the Philip we meet today was one of the 7 helpers of the Apostles
- ❑ You see, the Church was getting big and there were many widows; some were neglected
- ❑ Stephen, Philip and 5 others were chosen to look after the giving of food to the widows



The Adventures of Philip

(Acts 8:5-8, 26-40)

- ❑ When persecution broke out in Jerusalem, Philip was among those who went to Samaria.
- ❑ People in Samaria (Samaritans) and the Jews were originally blood relatives. But for centuries they hated each other.
- ❑ It got so bad that John, one of Jesus disciples, wanted Jesus to cast fire from heaven to burn the Samaritans when they were not received by the Samaritans!



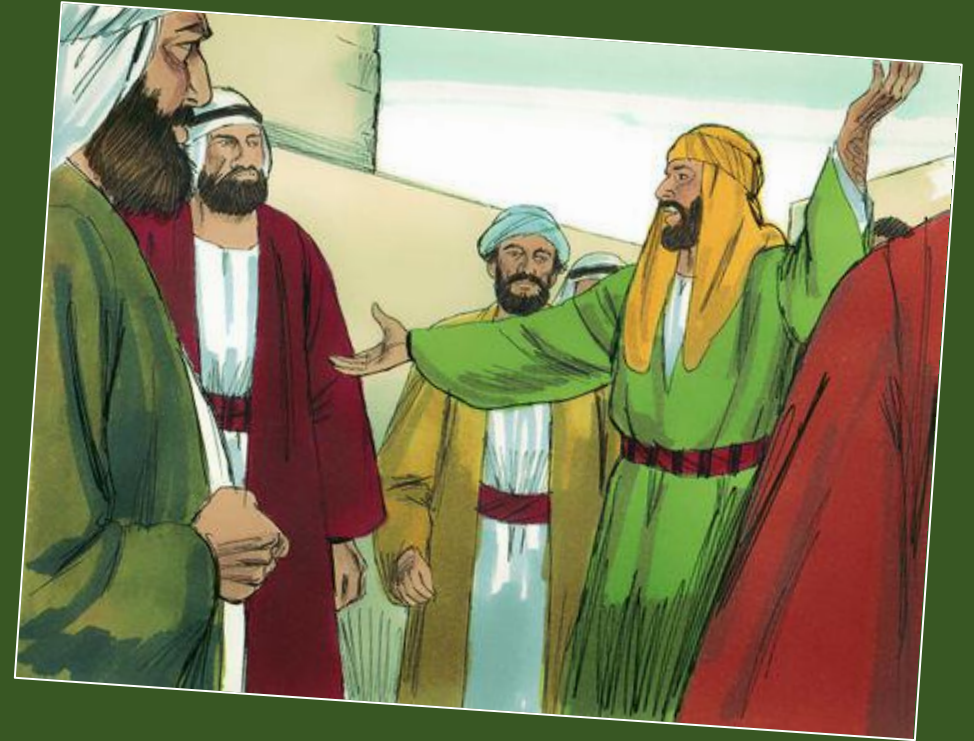
- ❑ Let's see what Philip did in Samaria (Acts 8:5-8, 26-40)



The Adventures of Philip

(Acts 8:5-8, 26-40)

Philip went to the city of Samaria and preached about the Christ. The people there heard Philip and saw the miracles he was doing. They all listened carefully to the things he said. Many of these people had evil spirits in them. But Philip made the evil spirits leave them. The spirits made a loud noise when they came out. There were also many weak and crippled people there. Philip healed them, too. So the people in that city were very happy.

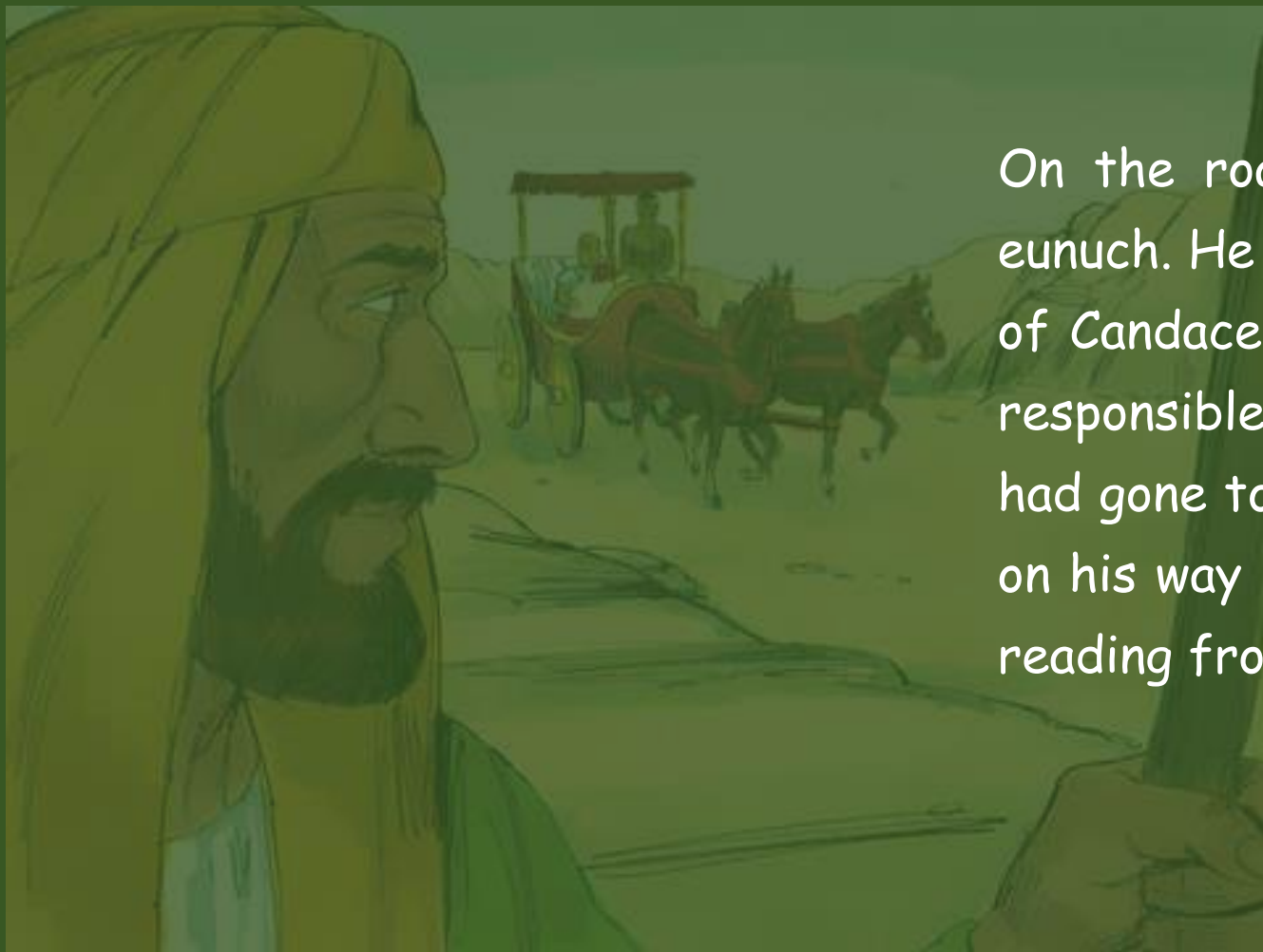


An angel of the Lord spoke to Philip. The angel said, "Get ready and go south. Go to the road that leads down to Gaza from Jerusalem — the desert road." So Philip got ready and went.



Philip was obedient to God. He left the city of Samaria. He took the road marked white on the map, called the desert road, probably because it passed through the desert.

Isn't it strange that God sent Philip to the desert when he was so successful in doing God's work in Samaria ??



On the road Philip saw a man from Ethiopia, a eunuch. He was an important officer in the service of Candace, the queen of the Ethiopians. He was responsible for taking care of all her money. He had gone to Jerusalem to worship, and now he was on his way home. He was sitting in his chariot and reading from the book of Isaiah, the prophet.

The Spirit said to Philip, "Go to that chariot and stay near it." So Philip ran toward the chariot. He heard the man reading from Isaiah, the prophet. Philip asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?"

He answered, "How can I understand? I need someone to explain it to me!" Then he invited Philip to climb in and sit with him. The verse of Scripture that he was reading was this:

"He was like a sheep being led to be killed.

He was quiet, as a sheep is quiet while its wool is being cut.

He said nothing.

He was shamed and was treated unfairly.

He died without children to continue his family.

His life on earth has ended." Isaiah 53:7-8

Hi there! You understand what you're reading?

I need someone to explain to me!

Isaiah was writing about Jesus!



Look... There's water! I want to be baptised!



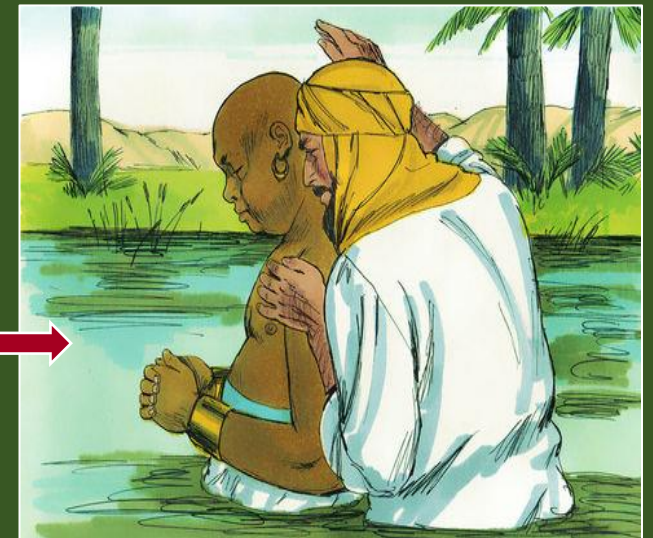
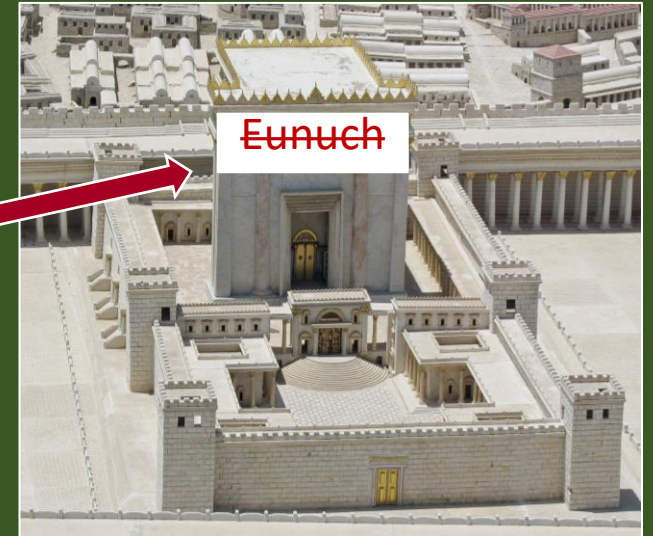
The officer said to Philip, "Please tell me, who is the prophet talking about? Is he talking about himself or about someone else?" Philip began to speak. He started with this same Scripture and told the man the Good News about Jesus.

While they were traveling down the road, they came to some water. The officer said, "Look! Here is water! What is stopping me from being baptised?"

Then the officer commanded the chariot to stop. Both Philip and the officer went down into the water, and Philip baptised him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord took Philip away; the officer never saw him again. The officer continued on his way home, full of joy.

The Ethiopian Officer

- ❑ He wanted to know God. He travelled 1000 miles to worship the God of Israel, but could not even get close
- ❑ You see, under the Old Testament law, eunuchs were forbidden to enter the Temple in Jerusalem because of their broken body (Dt 23:1)
- ❑ On his way home, he was reading from Isaiah Chapter 53 talking about Jesus' suffering. As he was struggling to understand who Isaiah was talking about, God sent Philip to explain to him the Good News of Jesus!
- ❑ He was sincere in his search for truth, and God answered him by sending Philip
- ❑ While he was excluded in Jerusalem, he was accepted in the Jesus family !
- ❑ He also brought Christianity to Africa !



Summary

- ❑ Jews & Samaritans were originally brothers but hated each other
- ❑ The officer was an eunuch and was excluded from the Temple in Jerusalem
- ❑ The Good News united Jews, Samaritans & the eunuch into Jesus' family

Jesus breaks down barriers among people and brings them into his family!

- ❑ Philip left behind a successful ministry when God told him to go to the desert
- ❑ His obedience enabled the Good News to travel 1000 miles into Africa

God sometimes leads us to the "desert" but we may not see His purpose right away

Family Discussion

1. Which of the following did Philip do or not do?
 - He looked after orphans in the Early Church
 - He liked sharing the Good News of Jesus with others
 - He sold a piece of land and gave the money to the church
 - He did many miracles in Samaria
 - He distributed food among the widows in the Church
2. Which part of Philip's work impresses you most? Why?
 - caring for widows,
 - preaching in Samaria,
 - meeting the Ethiopian officer
3. Was Philip an obedient servant of God? Why?

Family Discussion

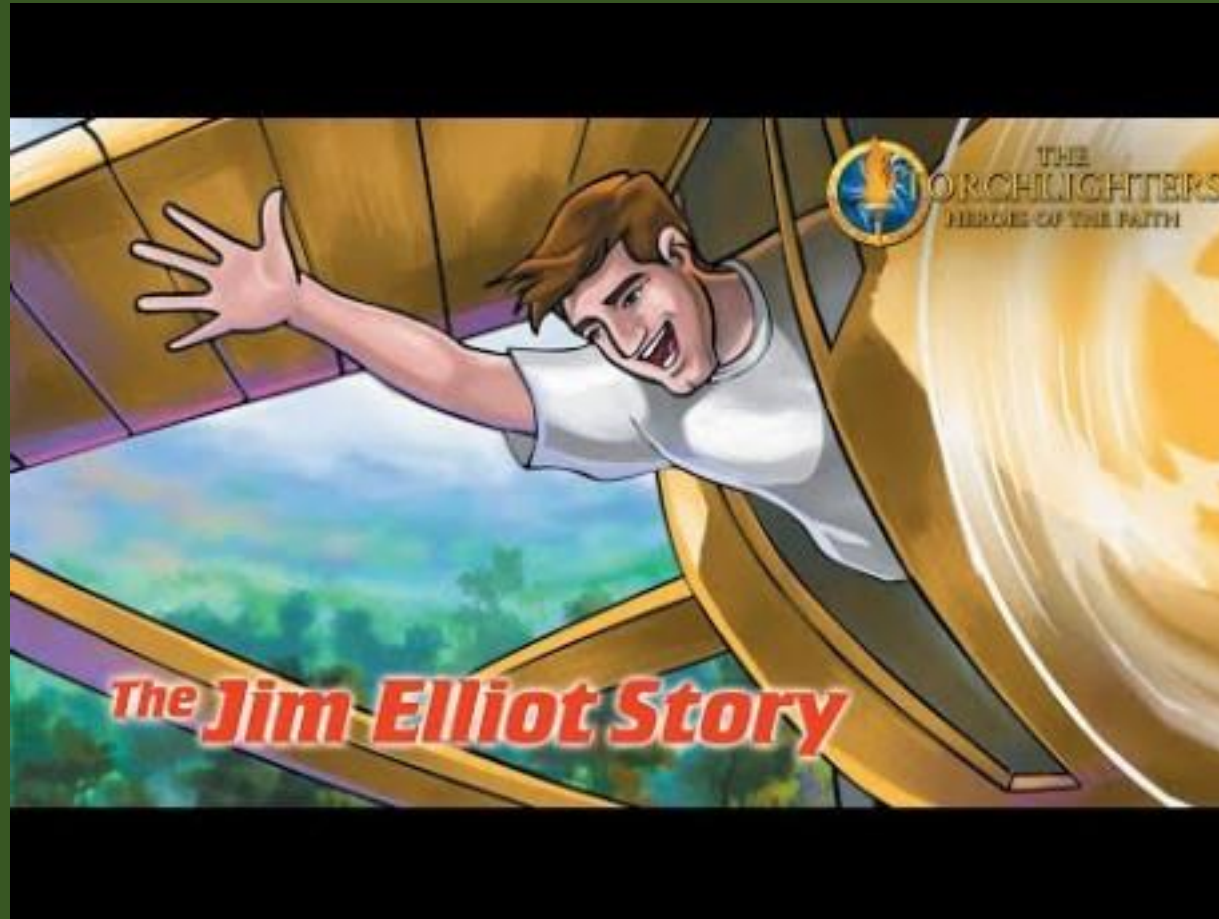
4. Philip was successful in Samaria, but God told him to head to the desert without giving a reason
 - What was God's *immediate* and *ultimate* purpose for Philip's journey?
 - If you were Philip, would you think it is unreasonable to leave your successful work behind and go to the "desert"? Would you question God?
 - Give an example where you obeyed God even when you didn't fully understand

5. In the story today, we learn that the Good News of Jesus breaks down barriers among people
 - What were those barriers? (If you don't remember, see Summary)

6. Bad things happen. The Church suffered (bad 😞) but the Good News spread so more people could be saved (good 😊).
 - Share an example where something bad happened to you (or someone you know) but good came out of it
 - Let's watch Jim Elliot - something very bad happened to him but...

Jim Elliot

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FpKbsbyEPPQ>



Family Prayer Time

1. Thank God for His Word and help so we may learn from Him.
2. Ask your children to pray for what they have learned just now.
3. Ask your family how you can pray for them specifically.

Trust and Obey

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nEF25fmhn-c>

