



MISSION CREEK

Alliance Church

Open with Prayer- Living Witness- Acts 8:26-35

1. **Being Available to God:** Philip responded when God directed him to go down a desert road, even though he didn't know what awaited him. What might prevent us from responding when we sense God prompting us to do something unexpected or uncomfortable?
2. **Beginning with Prayer:** Prayer helps us become more attentive to God's presence and purposes. How might beginning each day with a simple prayer such as "Lord, who would you like me to encourage or connect with today?" change the way we approach our everyday interactions?
3. **Recognizing Divine Appointments:** Philip's encounter with the Ethiopian official appeared ordinary, yet God was already at work. Can you recall an unexpected conversation or encounter where you later recognized that God may have been working? What did you learn from that experience?
4. **Listening Before Speaking:** Philip began his conversation by asking, "Do you understand what you are reading?" rather than immediately explaining the gospel. What can we learn from Philip about asking thoughtful questions, listening carefully, and understanding someone's spiritual journey before sharing our own faith?
5. **Overcoming Our Hesitations:** Many Christians feel uncomfortable sharing their faith because they fear rejection, lack confidence, or believe they don't know enough. Which of these barriers do you most identify with, and how might trusting the Holy Spirit help you move beyond them?
6. **Recognizing Where God Is Already Working:** Before Philip arrived, the Ethiopian official was already searching for understanding. How can we become more attentive to the spiritual curiosity, struggles, or questions of people around us? What might indicate that someone is open to a deeper conversation about faith?

7. Taking a Practical Step: Think of one person in your life who may need encouragement, friendship, prayer, or an opportunity to explore faith. What is one specific step you could take this week to be a living witness to that person? How could the group pray for you as you take that step?