

April 23, 2024

The Possibilities are Endless

[Acts: 8:26-39](#)

“So he got up and went.” Acts 8:27a (NRSVUE)

In this little story, Philip “got up and went” when told by an angel to travel a certain road.

Once there, Philip obeyed when he was instructed by the Spirit to speak to a certain traveler on that road. The traveler had been to Jerusalem and was reading and pondering scripture as he made his way home. The passage was one from Isaiah that we (like Philip) see as being about Jesus.

Philip didn’t try to do anything fancy. He started from where the traveler was and shared the Good News of Jesus. That led them to another opportunity: water for the traveler’s baptism.

Looking at this story from our perspective, we can see how God brought all of this together before the traveler even knew what he was looking for. God’s provision brought Philip and the unnamed Ethiopian to the same place, enlightened the Ethiopian man’s understanding, and led to his baptism. (John Wesley might have called that prevenient grace.)

God’s provision can do the same for us. We are not likely to be running up to chariots on wilderness roads, but all around us there are people who need Jesus. We should listen for the voice of the Holy Spirit.

When we meet them, we have to start from where people are, with whatever understanding they may (*or may not*) have about Jesus, and we have to share the Good News. Sometimes that takes creativity; sometimes it takes a listening ear; sometimes it takes a hot meal; sometimes it means going somewhere; and sometimes it means staying put.

When we listen for the voice of the Holy Spirit telling us who needs Jesus and how to reach them, the possibilities are endless.

Prayer: *Holy Spirit, help us to get up and go when you speak to us about those who need to hear the Good News. Open our hearts so that we hear you, and help us to meet people where they are to share the Good News with them. Amen.*

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