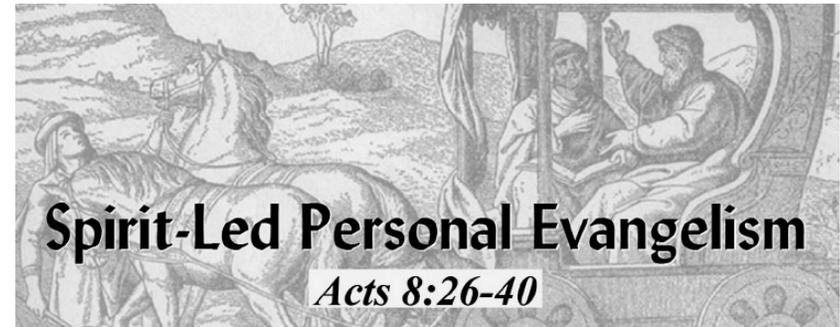




God led Philip away from a fruitful soul-winning campaign in Samaria to a desert area to minister to one Ethiopian man. This eunuch was sitting in his chariot reading Isaiah 53, and he inquired of whom the prophet was speaking. Philip began at that very Scripture and preached unto him Jesus (Acts 8:35). How interesting it would have been if God had directed Luke to record Philip's Christ-centered evangelistic message given to this man! What Old Testament Scriptures did he use? How long did he witness to him? What did he tell the eunuch about Christ? God in His wisdom merely summarized the entire encounter by saying "he preached unto him Jesus." Perhaps one reason God did not allow the content of Philip's preaching to be recorded is that the Lord desires His evangelists to be Spirit-led, and not follow the same pattern of witnessing every time. When dealing with lost sinners, every situation is different. God knows the needs of each heart. While the basic facts of the Gospel never change, God can guide us to adopt the proper approach for each individual person.

The approach Peter took with Simon the Sorcerer (Acts 8:20-24) was quite different from the approach Philip took with this Ethiopian who had a seeking heart. Some today might think it is essential to always follow the "Four Spiritual Laws" or "Romans Road." However, the Lord wants us to be flexible to share from God's Word whatever it is that the Spirit wants the needy sinner to hear. If God had recorded Philip's presentation, then today we might think we should present the Gospel the way Philip did, but the person we are witnessing to may need to hear the truth in a different way. ***How we need to be filled with the Spirit and depend fully upon His unfailing leading in every individual case.***

~George Zeller: www.middletonbiblechurch.org



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