

Weekly Discussion Guide – 5-18-2025

“The Church Crosses Barriers” Acts 8:26-40

1. When was a time you felt like an outsider or like you didn't quite belong? What helped or would've helped you feel more included?
2. Read Acts 8:26-40.
 - What stands out to you about this encounter?
 - What barriers existed between Philip and the Ethiopian?
 - What do you notice about the Holy Spirit's role in this story?
 - Why do you suppose the Ethiopian was so eager to be baptized right away?
3. In what ways do you relate (or have you related) to Philip in this story?
4. In what ways do you relate (or have you related) to the Ethiopian in this story?
5. Make a list of barriers that still exist – start with our world, then move inward to our nation, then move inward to our communities, then move inward to your life, family, and relationships.
6. Philip was available, attentive to the Spirit, and obedient to God's prompting. Which of those is hardest for you: being available, being attentive, or being obedient? Why?
7. Take a couple minutes of silent prayer and ask God to speak a word of invitation and/or challenge about how He's calling you to cross barriers in order to be more available as a witness of Jesus Christ.
8. What specific and practical step(s) can you take to respond to this word invitation or challenge from the Lord?