

“Sharing My Faith”

Introduction: The church’s focus should be outward, not inward.

Our motto should be, “When the saints go marching OUT!”

The church is not a holy huddle!

* We must *be* the Good News before we can *share* the Good News! *

How to Share My Faith:

1. Live the Right Life.

Acts 6:1-7

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Characteristics of Philip, the layman:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1) Church member | 4) Full of wisdom (a credible life) |
| 2) Good reputation | 5) Responsible (“in charge”) |
| 3) Filled with the Holy Spirit | 6) Full of faith (v. 5) |

2. Do the Right Things.

Acts 6, 8:1-13

Actions of Philip, the layman:

- 1) He was faithful in small duties.
- 2) He associated with the right people.
- 3) He made the best of a bad situation.
- 4) He shared Christ with others.
- 5) He shared Christ with leaders.

3. Go to the Right Places.

Acts 8:25-26

“When they had testified and proclaimed the word of the Lord, Peter and John returned to Jerusalem, preaching the gospel in many Samaritan villages.

Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Go south to the road — the desert road — that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” - Acts 8:25,26

* Philip went to the desert, not to the big city! *

God’s “right place” for you may be...

- 1) An unpopular place. (not a great city)
- 2) An unlikely place. (a desert)
- 3) A lonely place.

4. See the Right People.

Acts 8:27-29

“So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians. This man had gone to Jerusalem to worship, and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the book of Isaiah the prophet. The Spirit told Philip, ‘Go to that chariot and stay near it.’” - Acts 8:27-29

Philip saw a... 1) leader

2) receptive person

5. Make the Right Approaches.

Acts 8:30-31

“Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. “Do you understand what you are reading?” Philip asked. “How can I,” he said, “unless someone explains it to me?” So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.” - Acts 8:30-31

Philip teaches us to: 1) take nothing for granted.

2) start where they live.

6. Read the Right Words.

Acts 8:32-33

“The eunuch was reading this passage of Scripture: ‘He was led like a sheep to the slaughter, and as a lamb before the shearer is silent, so He did not open His mouth. In His humiliation He was deprived of justice. Who can speak of His descendants? For His life was taken from the earth.’” - Acts 8:32-33

• Don’t just talk — go to the Bible!

* Realize the need, then read! *

7. Share the Right Message.

Acts 8:34-37

“Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and **told him the good news about Jesus**. As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, ‘Look, here is water. Why shouldn’t I be baptized?’” - Acts 8:35-36

How to know what to share:

- 1) Preparation (learn scripture now!)
- 2) Experience (Start now! Try it!)
- 3) Holy Spirit (We need to depend on God’s power!)

8. Accomplish the Right Results.

Acts 8:38-39

“And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord suddenly took Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing.” - Acts 8:38-39

Word — “Study to show yourself approved”

Obedience — He went to the desert instead of to the big city with his friends.

Witnessing — Always be willing to share (1 Peter 3:15,16)

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