

With Philip's help, the Ethiopian man finally understood all the clues that God has given His people. Now he knew that Jesus was the Savior who died for Him – and all people! – on the cross to take our sins away. He asked to be baptized and become part of God's family.

Today, we don't have to follow clues to find Jesus. We already have the answer in the Bible! Plus, we have God's messengers to tell us what the Bible means: our pastors, teachers and parents.

But there are still millions of people in the world who haven't followed God's clues to the Savior, Jesus. They need a messenger, too, and you can be that messenger! God has given us the opportunity to be just like Philip, telling our neighbors about Jesus in person, and to Ethiopians through our mission project.

Let's pray that through God's Word in the Bible books we're sending to Africa, even more Ethiopians will learn about Jesus and have faith in Him.

We pray:

Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for making us your children and taking away our sins. Send your Holy Spirit to the people of Ethiopia. As they learn more about You in their Bible storybooks, give them faith in our Savior, Jesus Christ. Like the Ethiopian in our Bible lesson, bring more Ethiopian children to be baptized and make them part of Your family. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

The Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. Amen.

“How Can I Understand?”



Chapel/Classroom Devotion



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Bible Books for Ethiopia - Devotion

Order of Worship

Invocation: In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Response: Amen.

Sing: "Lift High the Cross" (LSB #837, LW #311)

Refrain: Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore His sacred name.

1. Come, Christians, follow where our Captain trod
Our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God. *Refrain*
2. Let ev'ry race and ev'ry language tell
Of Him who saves our lives from death and hell. *Refrain*
3. So shall our song of triumph ever be:
Praise to the Crucified for victory! *Refrain*

Scripture Reading: Acts 10: 26-38

²⁶Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is a desert place. ²⁷And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and join this chariot."³⁰So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" ³¹And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?"

³⁵Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?" ³⁸And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him.

Devotion: "Following the Clues to Jesus"

Have you ever read a mystery book or watched a mystery movie? It's exciting to follow the detectives in the mystery as they gather clues to catch the bad guys.

Well in some ways, people in the Bible who believed in God were like detectives. But they weren't searching for a bad guy. They were searching for a really Good Guy – the promised Savior!

Way back in the beginning of the Bible, we remember how Adam and Eve sinned in the Garden of Eden. Right away, even though they deserved to die, God promised them that He would send them a Savior, who would take away their sin. He gave them this clue: the Savior would be Adam and Eve's offspring (one of their children, or grandchildren, or great-great-great-great grandchildren).



Many, many years went by, and no Savior was born. But God sent more and more clues about Jesus, and He gave them to His people through the prophets – people God chose to give His special messages to the Church. For example, He told His prophet Micah that the Savior would be born in Bethlehem, and He told His prophet Jeremiah that the Savior would one day be killed. These were all clues for God's people, so that they would know who Jesus was, once He was born.

In our Bible reading for today, we hear about a man from Ethiopia in Africa, who was reading part of the Bible written by another one of God's prophets, named Isaiah. In the book of Isaiah, God gave His people LOTS of clues about who the Savior would be. The Ethiopian man was reading where Isaiah talked about how the Savior would be beaten, but He would not argue or fight back.

The Ethiopian man was confused by this clue. What did it mean? Who was Isaiah talking about? He couldn't understand.

God loved the Ethiopian man, and He wanted Him to know Jesus. So God sent His evangelist, Philip, to sit with the Ethiopian man and explain Isaiah's words.

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