



Riverstone
BAPTIST CHURCH

Sermon Based Questions

Date- Sunday 19th November 2017
Vision Sunday- Transformed!

Transformed!

35 Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus. 36 As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water. What can stand in the way of my being baptized?" Acts 8:35-36

**1. Jesus transforms the life of a God fearing Ethiopian.
Acts 8:26-40.**

**2. Jesus Transforms the life of a sneering persecutor.
Acts 9:1-19**

A. Examining the texts.

1. Read Acts 8:26-40. In what ways did God direct Philip in this passage and how was Philip exemplary? How had God been at work in the Ethiopian's life prior to Philip's coming? What role did scripture itself play in this story?
2. What does the Ethiopians' response to Philip reveal about baptism?
3. Read Acts 9:1-19. What role did Christ play in the events surrounding Saul's conversion? What role did Ananias play in this story?
4. Read Acts 9:1-19. What does this story teach us about the presence and power of the Spirit of God and again about the practice of baptism?

B. Meditation & application

5. In these two stories- it seems that God was a major player in the transformation of the Ethiopian and Saul. If you are a Christian- how in hindsight can you see the hand of God in your own conversion and transformation? What encouragement does this give you, in sharing your faith with others?
6. It would seem, that baptism in both these stories was an immediate response to hearing and believing the gospel. Do you think that this is meant to be a pattern and if so- how might this reality challenge you in practice?
7. Based on what you have read in these two stories- what role does the Holy Spirit play in mission and also- what role does courageous obedience play? (Do you think the Spirit and this obedience are related? If so/ how?)
8. How do these stories speak to you about the gospel and how do they challenge you to respond either personally to Christ or missionally to the world? What could you do this week to engage in what God is doing in the world to bring about transformation?

“Dear Heavenly Father; We thank you for your love and kindness expressed so powerfully to the two men in this story. We know 2000 years on, that Christ is still transforming lives and we ask that the Spirit- might transform ours to make us more like him and shape us so that we are more like Christ. We also ask for power to be agents of God's transforming grace in the world. Use us Lord, to bring glory to your Son.” In Jesus Name- Amen.”