



All Christians' Fellowship International

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Interactive Sunday school Outline

TOPIC: **Talking with Strangers**

TEXT: **Acts 8:26-40**

Instructions: *Instructions: - Let the above passages be read each time you come together to study this topic so that everyone could participate fully. The teacher should provide additional background information on the topic and come up with follow-up questions. Participants should be brief in their responses and use relevant Bible references to illustrate their points. They should be careful not to dominate the discussion to allow everyone to have an equal opportunity to participate.*

Introduction: Have you ever been led to talk with a stranger about the gospel? Perhaps you were sitting next to someone on a plane or bus, and you began to find out the interests and needs of the person, the Holy Spirit prompted you to speak about Jesus. In Acts 8, Philip had a similar experience. His encounter with the Ethiopian official provides an excellent example of when and how to talk about Jesus with people you don't know.

1. How do you feel about talking with strangers about the gospel?
2. Read Acts 8:26-29. The kind of direct guidance given to Philip is exceptional. How else might the Holy Spirit indicate that we should witness to a particular person?
3. What facts can we discover about the traveling stranger before his encounter with Philip (v. 27-28)?
4. Visualize the highway scene. The foreigner would have traveled in a caravan of slowly moving chariots, since it was dangerous to travel alone. He may have had a small retinue of his own. Having been guided to the man, what initiative does Philip take, and what initiative does the traveler take (v. 30-31)? What are some natural ways we might begin talking with a stranger about the gospel?
5. What advantage does Philip gain by asking a question and listening to the man before he begins to evangelize?
6. Together in the chariot the two men have one of the first recorded evangelistic Bible studies (v. 32-35). What are some of the advantages of evangelistic Bible discussions over other methods of evangelism? How can you be prepared to lead spontaneous Bible discussions™ the occasion arises?
7. Imagine that you are Philip. How might you use the Isaiah passage to begin telling the man the good news about Jesus (v. 32-35)?
8. What shows that Philip also explained the need for a personal response (v. 36-39)? What do you suppose being baptized meant to the Ethiopian?
9. What kinds of responses can we suggest when someone eagerly hears the gospel?
10. Circumstances made it impossible to disciple the man, but what spiritual resources did the man take with him? What could you do to disciple a convert you couldn't see again?
11. The Holy Spirit might lead us to speak with strangers on planes or buses, in our neighborhood, on campus or at the beach. What principles in this study can help us to make the most of these opportunities?