

Listening to God

Reading: From Acts chapter 8:26-39

An angel of the Lord spoke to Philip. "Go south to the desert road," he said. So Philip started out. On his way he met an Ethiopian official. The man had an important position in charge of all the wealth of the Queen of Ethiopia. This official had gone to Jerusalem to worship. On his way home he was sitting in his chariot. He was reading the Book of Isaiah the prophet. The Holy Spirit told Philip, "Go to that chariot. Stay near it."

So Philip ran up to the chariot. He heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. "Do you understand what you're reading?" Philip asked.

"How can I" he said. "I need someone to explain it to me," So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. Here is the part of Isaiah the official was reading. It says, "He was led like a sheep to be killed."

The official said to Philip, "Tell me, please. Who is the prophet talking about?" Then Philip began with that same part of Isaiah. He told him the good news about Jesus.

As they travelled along the road they came to some water. The official said, "Look! Here is water. What can stop me from being baptised?" He gave orders to

stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the official went down into the water. Philip baptised him.

Thought about the reading

We know that when we pray, we talk to God. Our Father in heaven likes us to talk to him. But does he talk to us? The answer is Yes! We may not hear him speaking with a voice, but he speaks to us through the Bible.

The Bible is like a letter from God. It tells us all we need to know about Jesus. It also tells us how we should live. The man in the story knew it was important to read the Bible. He was reading something from the Old Testament, which was written about Jesus, but many years before he was born. The man did not understand who it was about. He needed Philip to explain it. Once he understood, he decided to become a follower of Jesus.

It is still important for us to read the Bible. God gives us his Holy Spirit who helps us to understand what he is saying to us.

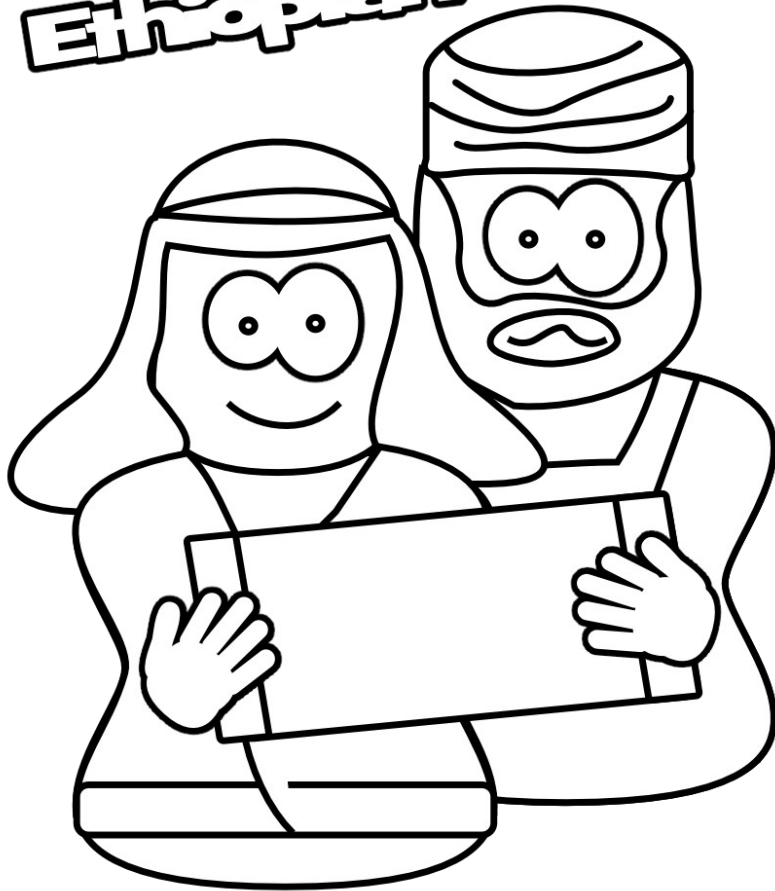
Prayer

Dear Jesus, thank you for giving us the Bible. Thank you that you speak to us through it.

Holy Spirit, please help to understand what you are saying to us when we read the Bible. Amen

**Philip
& the
Ethiopian**

**Acts
8**



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Bible Study notes

How Jesus wants me to live

5. Listening to God

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