AN ETHIOPIAN AND PHILIP

(Acts 8:26-40)

INTRODUCTION - Philip is called upon to leave the crowds and preach Jesus to one person.

1. WE MUST BE OBEDIENT

(v26-27) "so he arose and went"

Preaching to one may be our mission, too: (Mark 16:15; 1 Corinthians 4:2)

2. WE MUST BE WILLING TO TEACH ONE AS WELL AS MANY

(v29) "Go near and join thyself to this chariot"

(Matthew 18:11-14) "and go ... seek the **one** ... it is not the will of your Father in heaven that one of these little ones should perish."

3. WE MUST NOT PRE-JUDGE ANOTHER (high rank, another religion)

(v27) "a man of Ethiopia, a eunuch of great authority ... "
(Acts 10:34-35) "God shows no partiality. But in every nation ... " (also Romans 1:16)

4. WE MUST SENSE THE URGENCY OF PREACHING

(v30) "So Philip ran to him"

(1 Corinthians 9:16; Jeremiah 20:9; Psalm 107:2)

5. WE MUST ASK QUESTIONS

(v30) "said, Do you understand what you are reading?" - a practical and logical question. Philip, like Jesus, uses an appropriate question to get the discussion started.

6. WE MUST PREACH JESUS - always point people to Jesus

(v35) "and beginning at this Scripture, preached Jesus to him."

Earlier, preaching to the multitudes in the city of Samaria, (v12) "when they believed Philip as he preached the things concerning the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, both men and women were baptized."

(2 Timothy 4:2) "Preach the word."

7. WE MUST ALLOW THE TAUGHT TO ASK QUESTIONS

(v36) "See, here is water. What hinders me from being baptized?"
Then we must answer the question being asked. (v37) "If you believe with all your heart, you may." "He answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God."

8. WE MUST SEE THE IMPORTANCE OF IMMEDIATE BAPTISM

(v38) "So he commanded the chariot to stand still. And both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him."Arrangements to be baptized were made quickly: (Acts 2:41; 16:14-15 and v30-34)

9. WE MUST SEE THAT SALVATION IS ALWAYS AN OCCASION OF JOY

(v39) "and he went on his way rejoicing."

(Luke 15:6, v9, v10, v32; Philippians 4:4)