

Unstoppable

Doing What We Should Do While God Does What Only He Can Do

“Listening for Divine Appointments”

Acts 8:26-40

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Acts 8:26-40 is telling us what God’s still doing today through us, if we’re willing and expecting Him to use us. Let’s look at five things you can expect as you live your life to the glory of God.

I. You Can Expect God to Work in Ways We Might Not Think are Efficient and to Work During Times We Might Think are Impossible for the Advancement of the Gospel

A. God’s Not Done with One on One

Acts 8:5-8 “Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria and preached Christ to them. And the multitudes with one accord heeded the things spoken by Philip... v. 8 And there was great joy in that city.”

B. Persecution and Resistance Never Derails God’s Plan But Simply Becomes a Part of Accomplishing It

Acts 8:4 “Therefore those who were scattered went everywhere preaching the word.”

Persecution only sent the message of the Gospel into further places. Just because you’re living in times of resistance and persecution doesn’t mean it’s not a good time to share the Gospel!

II. You Can Expect God to Use You to Reach Other People But Don’t Expect Him to Give You All the Details in Advance

Acts 8:26 ^{“26} Now an angel of the Lord spoke to Philip, saying, ‘Arise and go toward the south along the road which goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.’ This is desert.”

Philip was only given one detail, but he obeyed and went.

The best person to share the Gospel is someone who’s experienced it for themselves. God chooses to use us to share it with others.

III. You Can Expect God to Be Working in People Long Before You Arrive On the Scene

Acts 8:27-28 ^{“27} So he arose and went. And behold, a man of Ethiopia, a eunuch of great authority under Candace the queen of the Ethiopians, who had charge of all her treasury, and had come to Jerusalem to worship, ²⁸ was returning. And sitting in his chariot, he was reading Isaiah the prophet.”

Go into your ordinary day with the expectation that God wants to use you and He's preparing people in your path.

IV. You Can Expect God to Give You More Opportunities as You Prepare for Divine Appointments

A. Start Working On Obeying God Without Question

God speaks most to those who argue least. Philip has cultivated this in his own life by choosing to obey.

God can do more through one simple act of obedience than we can do through our most extravagant plans.

God's not placed the weight of world evangelism on your shoulders. He just calls you to follow and obey Him.

B. Don't Throw the Holy Spirit Out Just Because We Believe in the Bible

The Holy Spirit is still in our world today working in the hearts of unbelievers all around us and He's ready to work through us to reach them for Christ.

God's Word and His Spirit work together. They're not opposed to each other. God gave us His Word and His Spirit and we desperately need both!

Acts 8:29 "Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go near and overtake this chariot.'"

C. Learn to Ask Good Questions

Notice what Philip did. He didn't just dive in and start preaching a sermon, instead he asked a question.

Acts 8:30b "... Do you understand what you are reading?"

D. Refuse to Chase 'Cultural Rabbits' but Talk about Jesus

Don't let tense subjects in our culture overshadow the main thing: every person you meet is still created in the image of God is going to spend eternity somewhere.

You don't have to solve their life issues before you share the Gospel and talk about Jesus. They need Jesus and the Gospel first.

Acts 8:35 "Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning at this Scripture, preached Jesus to him."

Know and be able to preach Jesus.

E. Use the Bible as Much as Possible

Acts 8:35 "... and beginning at this Scripture, preached Jesus to him."

Use the Bible because it has power! Testimonies get their attention, but God's word helps bring them to faith in Christ.

F. Refuse to Limit the Categories of Who God Might Assign for You Reach out to

V. You Can Expect God to Do More with that One Encounter than You Could Ever Imagine

When people meet Jesus, they go and tell others about the Jesus who changed their lives!