

unfolding church

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STUDIES IN THE BOOK OF ACTS

*Accompanies podcast "Why Not?" - 8/28/22
at www.newdaynw.com/sermons*

Read Acts 8

Historically, Samaritans and Jews did not associate (see John 4:9). What do you think gave Philip the sense of freedom to preach the gospel in Samaria?

Just as Philip was getting off to a good start there, God directed him to the desert. Have you ever had a time when it felt like God pulled you away from something good? How did you respond?

If you had been in Philip's shoes when the Ethiopian eunuch asked about the passage in Isaiah, how would you have directed the conversation to Jesus? Have you ever had an open opportunity where someone was ready to hear the gospel? What was the experience like for you?

Just like with the Samaritans, Philip would have had ample reason to not share the gospel with the Ethiopian eunuch. But look at Isaiah 56:3-8. God seems to be throwing a wide open door for people to hear about his salvation. Why is that sometimes difficult for us to accept?

Think about a specific person that you have difficulty loving or believing God could love. Take some time to pray for them and for more of a "why not" perspective in your own heart toward them.