

OFFERING H.O.P.E. FRANKLIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

SCRIPTURE

Acts 8:26-38

New Revised Standard Version

²⁶ Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Get up and go toward the south^[1] to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” (This is a wilderness road.) ²⁷ So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸ and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹ Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to this chariot and join it.” ³⁰ So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” ³¹ He replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. ³² Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

“Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,
so he does not open his mouth.
³³ In his humiliation justice was denied him.
Who can describe his generation?
For his life is taken away from the earth.”

³⁴ The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” ³⁵ Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶ As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?” ³⁸ He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip^[1] baptized him.

Offer Christ

“To Offer Christ is to lead persons to commit themselves to Christ. Opportunities are provided to make a commitment to Christ through baptism by water and the spirit, profession of faith, and for growth in personal holiness through relationship with Christ and others.

OUR DISCIPLINE

¶136. OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD: PRIVILEGE

THE BOOK OF DISCIPLINE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH: 2016 (NASHVILLE: THE UNITED METHODIST PUBLISHING HOUSE, 2016)

Christians experience growth and transition in their spiritual life just as in physical and emotional lives. While this growth is always a work of grace, it does not occur uniformly. Spiritual growth in Christ is a dynamic process marked by awakening, birth, growth, and maturation. This process requires careful and intentional nurture for the disciple to reach perfection in the Christian life. There are stages of spiritual growth and transition: Christian beginnings, Christian birth; Christian growth; and Christian maturity. These require careful and intentional nurture for the disciples to come to maturity in the Christian life and engage in the ministry of all Christians.

OUR DISCIPLESHIP

AS INDIVIDUALS

I intentionally take advantage of opportunities to grow in my faith and commitment to Christ.

TOGETHER

We create systems that offer opportunities for people to make a commitment, to grow in Christ, and to begin their journey as disciples.

OUR DISCUSSION
