

Kid's Slot – July 17th - July 23rd, 2011



“Diving In!”

OVERVIEW: Children will learn about how to obey God's word and the blessings that follow!

PREPARATION: You will need a cake mix; a bottle of shampoo. You will also need your Bible.

BIBLE STORY & VERSE: Acts 8:26-40

ICEBREAKER GAME:

“What is the one thing your parents or grandparents ask you to do and you have the hardest time obeying?”

STORY: Read “Right Time, Right Place” on the other side

QUESTIONS:

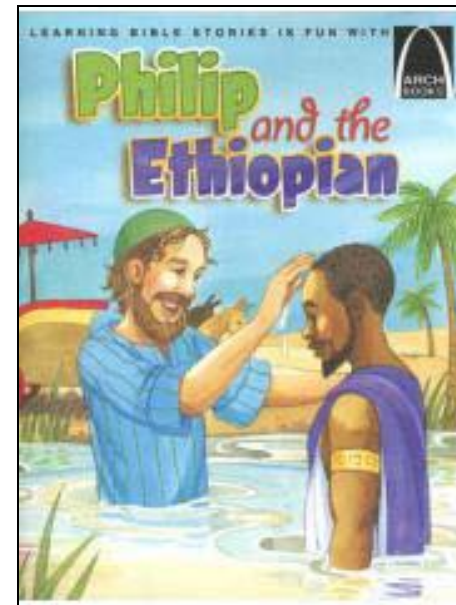
1. **What is the instruction book that God has provided for us?** (The Bible)
2. **What was the disciple Phillip doing while he was in Jerusalem?** (He was teaching people about Jesus)
3. **Why did he go to the hot and dusty desert?** (Because he was told to, by an angel of the Lord.)
4. **Who did he meet on the road?** (A man from Africa – from the country of Ethiopia)
5. **What was the man doing and what did he ask of Phillip?** (He was in his chariot reading from the Bible about Jesus and he asked Phillip to explain what he didn't understand.)
6. **What did Phillip do?** (He took the time to explain what the man didn't understand; he didn't tell him to go ask someone else, like Peter, he shared the Good News himself.)

7. **What did the man then ask Phillip to do?** (To baptize him, right on the spot.)
8. **What does God want YOU to do?** (Get baptized and to tell others about Jesus.)

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE: "Look! Here is water! Why shouldn't I be baptized?" Acts 8:37

Return to the Life Group: Return to the Life Group and have the children recite their Bible Memory verse. Let the children share a bit about the story

Reminder: In celebration for Summer Splash, we are having a baptism emphasis in July and August. If a child is interested in being baptized, note that on the Life Group report and get in touch with the Children's Minister for follow-up.



Right Place, Right Time

Suppose you were going to make a cake and decided to change the one of the ingredients...suppose the directions said to put in 2 raw eggs and you decided to scramble them instead! Would your cake turn out the way you want it?

Supposed you decided to wash your hair with some new shampoo. The directions tell you to wash your hair until it is nice and soapy and then rinse it...suppose you decide NOT to rinse your hair and just leave it soapy. Would your hair turn out the way you want it? NOPE!

We sometimes make mistakes like this, too. God has given us an instruction book – does anyone know what we call that book? Yes, it is our Bible. When we read or have our parents read us the Bible, we get to know more about God and his Son, Jesus, and how we can know him and live with him forever in heaven one day...all by following the instructions in our Bible! Listen to this great story from the Bible:

One of Jesus' disciples was in Jerusalem teaching about Jesus when an angel of the Lord told Phillip to leave where he was teaching and preaching the Good News and go to a desert! If that were me, I would probably be thinking – WHY??? A desert? Who wants to go to a **hot and dusty desert** when I am here telling lots and lots and lots of people about Jesus right here in Jerusalem? But Phillip didn't question God like I may have done; he immediately obeyed and went to **that hot and dusty desert** like God told him to!

As he was walking along that – say it with me – **hot and dusty desert** – he heard the sounds of a chariot and horses, clopping along the roadway. Phillip ran up along-side the chariot and saw a man from Africa reading the Bible out loud. The man said he was having trouble understanding what he was reading and needed someone to help explain it to him. Now Phillip could have said, “Well, there's this really smart disciple of Jesus named Peter – he's waaaay better than me when it comes to the Bible – but he's back in Jerusalem...let's go back there and let explain it to you...I'm not as good as he is!” NOPE! Or did he say, “Listen, dude, I'm really hot and thirsty – I need to take a break first – this IS the desert, you know, and everyone knows that deserts are **hot and dusty!** NOPE again! Philip knew exactly what to do and he did it...maybe not as good as Peter would have done, but he did his best to explain all about Jesus. In fact, he did such a good job

that the man from Africa noticed some water on the side of the road and asked Phillip why HE couldn't he obey God's word and get baptized – RIGHT NOW!

Now, Phillip could have said – wait – you don't have a bathing suit or a towel! But he didn't. Right then and there, in the middle of the **hot and dusty desert**, Phillip baptized the man from Africa. His life was now changed forever! And when he went back to Africa, to work for Queen Candace in Ethiopia, want to guess what GOOD NEWS he shared with all his friends and family? Why sure – he told them about what happened to him while in the...one more time...**hot and dusty desert** – and how God provided a disciple of Jesus and a pool of water for him to be baptized.

Aren't you glad that BOTH men obeyed the Lord? I know I am. What about you? Have you said yes to Jesus...do you have friends that need to hear the GOOD NEWS, but you think you're not smart enough or know enough about the Bible to tell them? Have YOU been baptized? What's stopping you!

God has a great plan for your life and he wants you to DIVE IN and discover what it is...but you must first take a step in obedience. Let's pray and ask the Lord what our next steps are! He wants to help us obey him and know him, just like the man from Ethiopia! Will you say YES to Him?

