

# reachONE

**REACHING... The Ethiopian**  
Josh Hawley, Pastor of Spiritual Growth  
February 16, 2014

## 2 Corinthians 5:18-21: Why Reaching Matters

### Acts 8:26-40: Philip Reaches the Ethiopian

- God gives specific promptings to put us on His agenda to reach people.
- Get out of your comfort zone and connect with people who don't know Jesus.
- Learn stories & discover common ground by asking questions & listening.

- *Have you ever been to church? Tell me about your experience.*
- *Do you have any spiritual background?*
- *What are your thoughts on spiritual issues?*
- *Who, in your opinion, was Jesus Christ?*
- *Do you ever wonder what happens to us when we die?*
- *What do you think a real Christian is?*
- *Would you like to come to church with me this Sunday?*
- Pour your heart into a person's spiritual journey.

### My Next Steps Today

- ONE intentional friendship with ONE unchurched person.
- I asked Jesus Christ to be my Lord & Savior for the first time today.
- I rededicated my life to Christ today.



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**Lesson Aim:** *To grow in our understanding and application of God's heart to reach people that don't know Him... and begin to learn how to become "REACHERS" ourselves.*

**Prayer:** Ask the Holy Spirit to lead your study time and/or discussion.

**Ice-breaker:** What is the longest trip (in terms of distance) you have ever taken?

1. **READ Acts 8:26-40.** List at least 3 things that stand out to you from Philip's encounter with the Ethiopian and why.
2. In the message this weekend, Pastor Josh stated "God gives specific promptings to put us on His agenda to reach people." In what ways have you experienced this?
3. What are some challenges to knowing whether or not "promptings" are really from the Holy Spirit or not? What can we do when we're not sure?
4. Another statement from Sunday's message was "get out of your comfort zone and connect with people who don't know Jesus." What are some ways you have been able to make connections with people who don't know Jesus in the past? What are some ways you might be able to do this in the present or future?

5. Getting out of our comfort zones may require us to experience some unknowns. Have you ever experienced awkward or uncomfortable moments as you've tried to step out of your comfort zone to reach people for Jesus? Tell your group about it.
6. As we try to reach people for Jesus, we might be concerned that we not view a person as a "project." What do you think are some differences between trying to reach someone as a "project" versus trying to reach them out of love and with God's heart?
7. As we think about being the kind of person who can help another on their spiritual journey, it is helpful to think about ways we have been helped on ours. How has a person helped you in the past?
8. What other resources have you found to be helpful in strengthening your faith (that may also be helpful to people who have spiritual questions)?
9. **READ Colossians 4:2-6.** What do these verses teach us about reaching others for Jesus?
10. What are some things you have learned about sharing your own story of how you came to know Christ? Do you think the Faith Story training February 23 from 1 – 2 pm in the Ground Floor could help you?

**Close in prayer, taking time to pray (by name) for some of the people you mentioned who don't yet know Jesus. Also pray for each other to have the heart of Jesus and His guidance as you strive to reach others for Him (if your LifeGroup is large you may want to break up into smaller groups to do this).**

This **LifeGroup** Study Guide is designed to help you apply Sunday's message. You can do this homework on your own; however we encourage you to check out our friendly, message-based **LifeGroups!** Get a copy of this Study Guide at [theBridgeFresno.com](http://theBridgeFresno.com) by clicking on the "Messages" link.