

ELCA YOUTH GATHERING
THIS CHANGES EVERYTHING
29 JUNE 2018



*In our surrender, God's **grace** changes everything.*

THEME BIBLE READING

Take time to read and reflect on this Bible passage and choose how you will tell the story in your own way.

Scripture **Acts 8:26-40** **Phillip and the Eunuch**

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR REFLECTION

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?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. **Acts 8:36-39 (NRSV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for Today:

Dear Jesus, help us to rejoice in spreading the good news in your name. Amen.

A Mealtime Prayer for Today:

Dear God, we give you thanks for this food and the gift of life. May we count our blessings and help those in strife. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May you receive the gift of God's grace and know it changes everything for you.




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INTERACTIVE LEARNING

[YouTube Hymn for Today](#) 

[Wade in the Water](#)

by Sweet Honey in The Rock 



CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss today and later in your home or small group:

- Have you ever been mentored or helped by someone? Tell about that time.
- Philip helped the eunuch understand the scripture he was reading. Who helps you understand scripture?

DEVOTIONS

Reflect on today's reading.

Choose one of four ways to retell the reading in your own words. You may choose to tell it as it is and portray the role of Phillip and the eunuch or choose to retell the story in a modern day setting using one of the following venues:

1. **Puppets:** Use puppets to retell the story or relate the story to your life today.
2. **Signing Scripture:** Go to this link to find key words to sign. <http://www.aslpro.com/>
3. **Creative Movement:** Use the YouTube link above and engage in creative dance movements as the song is sung.
4. **Spontaneous Melodrama:** Have one person read Acts 8:26-40 with expression while others are re-enacting what they hear through motions.

SERVICE

Technology is important. In today's world, communication and connections with others is done using cell phones, tablets, and a rich variety of social media. Skills for using a computers, tablets, and cell phones is needed. Not everyone has these skills, particularly generations that were not raised using them. Do you know of someone who could use help in learning how to use these tools? How can you serve as a mentor for them?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Martin Luther said, "Never adopt the opinion that your baptism is something that happened in the past and cannot be used in our present life. Baptism is not a one-time action, but a truly splendid on-going act of God. Everyone should therefore look upon baptism like the clothes we put on every day. We should at all times be clothed in the blessings of baptism. We must every day remember our baptism."

Each morning begin a ritual of remembering your baptism when you wash your face. Say this prayer: Thank you Lord for the grace-filled water of life and a bath of the new birth in the Holy Spirit. Amen.



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