Bible Stories for Young Children

part of a curriculum prepared for young children

PHILIP AND THE ETHIOPIAN

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ACTS 8:26–40
PHILIP AND THE ETHIOPIAN
File no. 174

An angel of the Lord came to Philip and said, 'Go to the lonely desert road between Jerusalem and Gaza.'



Philip went straight away to the lonely desert road.

At the same time a man from Ethiopia was travelling in his chariot. He was on his way home.

He worked for the Queen, and looked after her money and property. He had been to Jerusalem to worship God.

As he rode in his chariot, he was reading out aloud from the book of Isaiah.



The Holy Spirit said to Philip, 'Go and keep close to that chariot.'

Philip ran alongside the chariot and heard the man reading.

He asked him, 'Do you understand what you're reading?'

'How can I unless someone explains it to me?' answered the man. 'Come and join me in my chariot.'



The man from Ethiopia was reading:

'They led Him like a sheep that was going to be killed. He was quiet like a lamb when its wool was being cut off. He was treated unfairly. Who will be left to tell His story? His life on earth has been ended.'

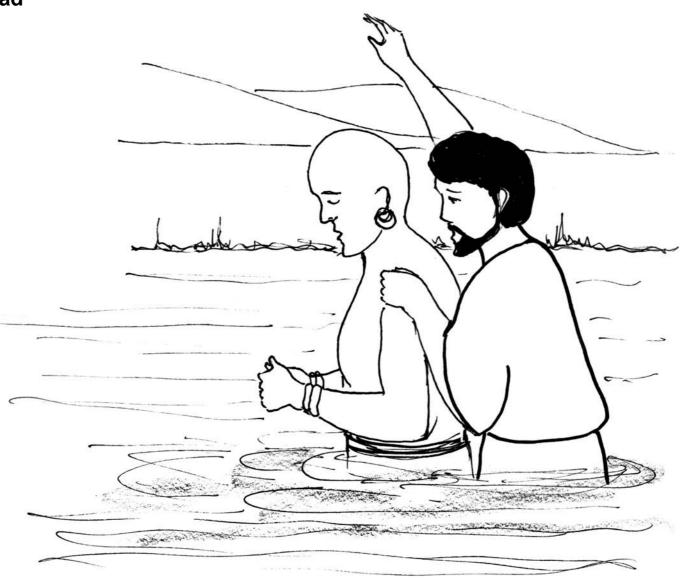
'Who is Isaiah talking about?' asked the man. 'Is it himself, or someone else?'

Explaining this passage
Philip told the Ethiopian
about Jesus
and how men crucified Him,
and that God raised Him
from death.
He is now at
God's right hand.



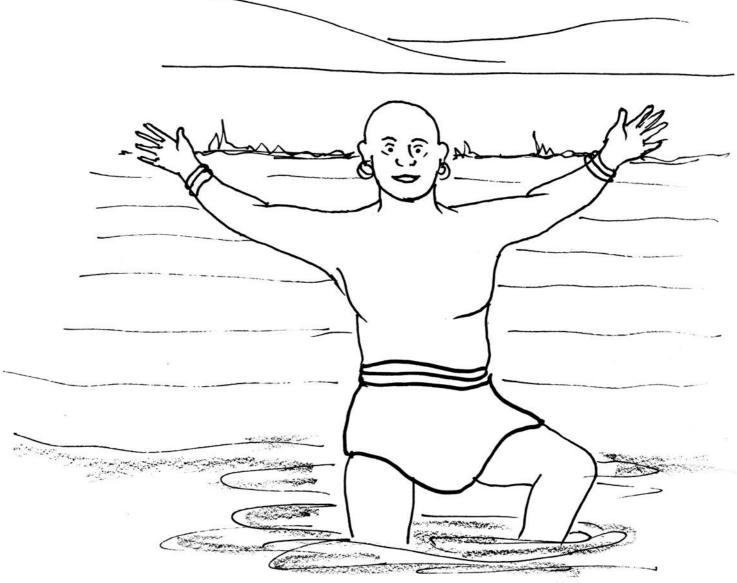
The man from Ethiopia believed and when he saw water ahead he said, 'Here is water. What prevents me from being baptised?'

He stopped the chariot. He and Philip got out and went into the water, where Philip baptised him.



As soon as they came up out of the water the Holy Spirit took Philip away.

The man never saw Philip again but his heart was full of joy as he went on his way home.



Philip found himself in another place. He went on telling people the good news of Jesus Christ.