



# Philip and the Ethiopian

**Lesson Aim: To know we can tell Bible stories to others.**

## THE WORSHIP

**Who God Is:** The Spirit Who Gives Us Power

## THE WORD

**Bible Story:** Acts 8:27-31, 34-35

**What He Has Done:** God led Philip to teach the man from Africa about Jesus.

## THE WAY

"'Not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit,' says the Lord Almighty." Zechariah 4:6b

Unit 1: The Promise of the Spirit			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
1	The Promise of the Holy Spirit, Acts 1:4-11	Jesus promised the Holy Spirit would come.	To know Jesus promised a special helper.
2	Pentecost: The Holy Spirit Comes, Acts 2:1-4	Jesus kept His promise and sent the Holy Spirit.	To know God keeps His promises.
3	Peter and the Lame Man, Acts 3:1-10	God healed the man who could not walk.	To praise God for healing us.
4	Stephen Serves Others, Acts 6:1-8	God helped Stephen serve others by feeding the hungry.	To know we can serve others by feeding the hungry.
5	Philip and the Ethiopian, Acts 8:27-31, 34-35	God led Philip to teach the man from Africa about Jesus.	To know we can tell Bible stories to others.

## TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Deuteronomy 4:7-10. Please join us in praying, "Thank You, Lord, for giving us the Bible. Help us teach the children Your Word so they have the knowledge to tell others about Jesus. Give them confidence to share what they know with others. Amen."

## TEACHER'S TIP

Young children are explorers by nature. The more senses you can engage in an activity, the better they will learn. Whenever possible, use 3-D objects or pictures when telling or reviewing the story. Allow the children to touch the picture or object. Have them close their eyes and imagine what sounds they might hear. Allow the children to be part of the story by making sounds (ie. wind, animals, etc.) or by playing the roles of the characters in the story.



# THE WORSHIP THE WORD & THE WAY

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	<b>Welcome</b>	Treasure chest, stamp or sticker of a Bible
		<b>Coloring Center:</b> Philip Teaches about Jesus	Coloring pages of Philip and the man from Africa, crayons
		<b>Play-Dough Center:</b> Tell Me, Please	Play-dough, cookie cutters, play-dough tools, optional: children's Bible
		<b>Activity Center:</b> Listen and Tell	3 musical instruments or other objects that make noise
		<b>Block and Car Center:</b> Chariot Ride	Blocks, cars
	Up to 5	<b>Prepare for Worship</b>	None
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	<b>Worship</b> Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org.	Praise music, optional: musical instruments <b>Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse Song:</b> "Not by Might" <b>Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions:</b> "Heal Me, O Lord" "Here Am I" "He Is Mighty to Save" "I Am with You" "Let Everything That Has Breath" "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" "The Lord Is Faithful"
		<b>Offering</b>	Baskets
		<b>Worship Illustration</b>	<i>The Adventures of Delbert and Lello</i> puppet script or storybook: Prophets & Promises Unit 1, Lesson 5
THE WORD	Up to 10	<b>Watch the Word:</b> Acts 8:27-31, 34-35	Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Acts 8:31 Visuals: Picture of the Bible story or a scroll, Bible
THE WAY	Up to 25	<b>Craft:</b> Teaching Bible	Standard-size sturdy black and white paper, heart sticker, glue or tape, crayons or markers
		<b>Game:</b> Tell Me the Story	Bible, 2 chairs
		<b>Game:</b> Jesus Loves You	None
	<b>Snack:</b> Tell Me a Story	Any favorite snack (or a snack traditionally associated with story time in your area)	
	Final 5	<b>Final Five</b>	Ponder, Pray & Play: Unit 1, Lesson 5
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	<b>Say &amp; Do:</b> Acts 8:27-31, 34-35	None
	Up to 10	<b>Game:</b> Bible Memory Verse Hop	None
	Up to 10	<b>Game:</b> Close with Him	Large blanket
	Up to 10	<b>Story Time</b>	Any story about telling others about Jesus

**RESOURCES:** Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



The Spirit who gives us power

## THE WELCOME

### WELCOME

Welcome each child as they arrive. **Hello \_\_\_\_\_.** I'm glad you are here! **Come open the Treasure Chest to find today's treasure.** Child unlocks the Treasure Chest to receive a stamp or sticker of a Bible. **Let this stamp (or sticker) of a Bible help you remember Philip told the man from Africa (Ethiopia) what the Bible says about Jesus.**

**Teacher's Note:** These activity centers are designed to reinforce the lesson through hands-on learning experiences either individually or in small groups with the guidance of the teacher. Choose the Bible Activity Centers that best suit the children in your class. Set up the activity centers around the room before children arrive. Allow children to move freely among them.

### COLORING CENTER: PHILIP TEACHES ABOUT JESUS

#### **SUPPLIES**

Coloring pages of Philip and the man from Africa, crayons

#### **DO**

Children color their picture as they talk about today's story.

#### **TALK ABOUT**

**Today our picture is of one of Jesus' friends named Philip and a man from Africa. What do you think the man from Africa is reading? (Bible.) Philip helped him understand what he was reading. Who helps you understand the Bible? (Teachers, parents, etc.)**

### PLAY-DOUGH CENTER: TELL ME, PLEASE

#### **SUPPLIES**

Play-dough, cookie cutters, play-dough tools, optional: children's Bible

#### **DO**

Children play with the play-dough while sharing their favorite Bible stories. Encourage children to make a Bible with the play-dough.

#### **TALK ABOUT**

**Why do we come to church? (To hear about God, to sing praise songs, to hear Bible stories, to pray, to worship God with our friends, etc.) Where do we find stories about God? (In the Bible.) Who can tell me one of your favorite Bible stories?** Give children an opportunity to share their favorite Bible stories. Have a children's Bible handy to look at pictures of the children's favorite stories.

# THE WELCOME *continued...*

## ACTIVITY CENTER: LISTEN AND TELL

### SUPPLIES

3 musical instruments or other objects that make noise

### DO

Children listen to objects make noise and tell you what the object is.

### TALK ABOUT

Let's play "Listen and Tell." I will make a noise. LISTEN and see if you can TELL me what made the noise. Do this with all three objects. See if the children can find other objects that make noise. You did a great job playing "Listen and Tell." We can play "Listen and Tell" with more than just noises. When you LISTEN to a Bible story, then you can you TELL it to someone else.

## BLOCK AND CAR CENTER: CHARIOT RIDE

### SUPPLIES

Blocks, cars

### DO

Children build a road for the man from Africa and act out the story.

### TALK ABOUT

Our story today is about a man from Africa who was on his way home from Jerusalem. On the way, he met Jesus' friend Philip. Philip helped the man understand the Bible story he was reading. Can you make a road out of the blocks? When you have made your road, pretend you are the man from Africa riding home.

**Optional:** Using puppets or just their fingers for Philip and the man from Africa, have two children act out the two men meeting along the road and reading the Bible together.

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## PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

It's time for Praise Time. Let's sing a "Clean Up Song" as we put things away. Praise children as they help clean.

**Clean up! Clean up! Everybody, everywhere!  
Clean up! Clean up! Everybody do your share!**

### BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SIGN LANGUAGE

(For visual demonstrations, see [www.signingsavvy.com](http://www.signingsavvy.com))

**"Not by might,  
nor by power,  
but by My Spirit,"**

(might) Push fists up and forward in a forceful manner.

(power) Push fists up and forward in a forceful manner.

(Spirit) On each hand, touch the tip of the pointer finger to the tip of the thumb. Hands begin at center of the chest, then move apart in a back and forth wavy motion.

**says the Lord Almighty."**

(Lord) Make "L" shape with right index finger and thumb. Move "L" from left shoulder to right hip as a royal sash.

**Zechariah 4:6b**

Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.

Adding sign language or motions to the Bible Memory Verse helps children recall what they are learning.



The Spirit who gives us power

# THE WORSHIP

**Supplies:** Praise music, optional: musical instruments

**Teacher Tip:** To help children identify time set aside for worship, designate a special corner or area for singing, collecting offering, and watching the worship illustration. Play "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" as children move to that designated area.



**I'm so glad you came today to learn about Jesus. Let's pray and ask God to help us tell others what we learn.** Have the children bow their heads and close their eyes. **Dear God, help us listen and learn as we hear stories from the Bible so we can share them with others. Amen.**



**When we tell others about Jesus, it makes God very happy. God wants everyone to know about Him and understand how much He loves us. Then, everyone can praise Him!** Sing: "Let Everything That Has Breath."

**We can tell Bible stories to others when we are at home or at church, when we are inside or outside, or wherever we go. The Holy Spirit is with us to help us tell others about Jesus. He is with us now as we collect our offering.** Sing: "I Am with You" while collecting the offering.



**Today, we will hear how Philip met a man in a faraway land called Ethiopia. Ethiopia is in Africa. Let's see if Delbert and Lello can tell us more about the man from Africa.** Perform *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read storybook: Prophets & Promises Unit 1, Lesson 5.



**The Holy Spirit helps us understand stories in the Bible and tell them to others. It is not by our own might or power that we can understand and tell the Bible stories, but it is by God's Spirit. That reminds me of our Bible Memory Verse. Let's say it together.** Say the verse together two or three times.

**"Not by might,  
nor by power,  
but by My Spirit,"**

**says the Lord Almighty."**

**Zechariah 4:6b**

(might) Push fists up and forward in a forceful manner.  
(power) Push fists up and forward in a forceful manner.  
(Spirit) On each hand, touch the tip of the pointer finger to the tip of the thumb. Hands begin at center of the chest, then move apart in a back and forth wavy motion.  
(Lord) Make "L" shape with right index finger and thumb. Move "L" from left shoulder to right hip as a royal sash.  
Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.



Sing Unit 1 Bible Memory Verse Song: "Not by Might."



Philip teaches the man

## THE WORD

**Supplies:** Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Acts 8:31, picture of the Bible story or a scroll, Bible

**Before we begin our Bible Time, let's say our Classroom Promise with the motions.**

<b>With my eyes on my teacher;</b>	Point to eyes.
<b>My mouth quiet as can be,</b>	Place index finger over mouth as quiet sign.
<b>I will listen to hear,</b>	Cup hand around ear.
<b>How God loves you and me.</b>	Hug self, point to others, and then self.

**Let's reach deep in our pockets and pull out our listening ears.** Reach in your pocket and cup your hands behind your ears as if listening.

Lay the Bible in your lap. **Who can tell me our Bible Memory Verse?** Choose a child to say the verse with the motions with your help as needed. **Good job!** Ask the child: **Will you come stand by me so we can share our Bible Memory Verse with everyone here?** Child stands next to you. Lead the child in saying the Bible Memory Verse with the motions. **Thank you for helping me share our Bible Memory Verse.**

To all the children, say: **Where do we find our memory verse?** (In the Bible.) Hold up the Bible for the children to see. **When you tell someone our Bible Memory Verse, you are sharing the Bible with them. Today, we will hear a Bible story about Philip. He shared the Bible with a man from Africa. Let's listen.** Handle the Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to Acts 8:31.



### **WATCH THE WORD: ACTS 8:27-31, 34-35**

Read the story below or retell the passage in your own words. To illustrate the story, show a picture of the Bible story or a scroll from a children's Bible, the coloring page, or other source.

- **Philip was walking down the road one day,**
- **A man from Africa he did see.**
- **Philip ran to the man as fast as he could,**
- **For the Bible he was trying to read.**
  
- **Philip asked, "Do you understand this?"**
- **"Tell me, please!" said the man.**
- **Philip told him all about Jesus**
- **When they read the Bible story again!**

**The man from Africa was reading a Bible story. Did he understand what he was reading? (No.) Who helped him? (Philip.) Philip shared the Bible story with the man from Africa and he told him about Jesus. Who can you tell about Jesus? (Children respond.)**



Tell about Jesus

## THE WAY

**Teacher Tip:** Craft and games can be presented at the same time in different areas or one at a time depending on class size and teaching style.

### **CRAFT: TEACHING BIBLE**

**Purpose:** To remind the children Philip taught the man from Africa the meaning of the Bible story.

**Supplies:** Standard-size sturdy black and white paper, heart sticker, glue or tape, crayons or markers

**Prepare:** Fold the sturdy black paper in half to create a book cover. Cut a cross shape out of the front cover of the book. Fold the white paper in half to create a book page. On the inside left, print:

**Philip teaches about Jesus.**

**Acts 8:27-31, 34-35**

**Adaptation for Ages 2-3:** Twos and threes will enjoy drawing the picture of Philip teaching the Bible, but you may consider printing a picture of the Bible story for them to color and attach inside the Bible.

#### **Directions:**

1. Draw a picture of Philip teaching from the Bible on the inside right page of the white paper.
2. Glue or tape the back of the white paper to the inside of the black "Bible cover."
3. Put the heart sticker on the white cross which is now showing through the "Bible cover."

#### **Craft Discussion:**

- **What was the man from Africa reading?** (The Bible.)
- **Did he understand it?** (No.)
- **What did he ask Philip to do?** ("Tell me, please.")
- **The Holy Spirit helped Philip teach the man from Africa about Jesus. You can tell others about Jesus, too!**
- **Take your "Teaching Bible" home and tell someone the story of Philip teaching the man from Africa about Jesus.**

# THE WAY *continued...*

## **GAME: TELL ME THE STORY**

**Purpose:** Children will act out the story of Philip and the man from Africa.

**Supplies:** Bible, 2 chairs

**Optional:** Add some fun by having the children add sound effects, such as the sound of the chariot horses galloping or the man from Africa telling the horses to stop ("Whoa!").

**The man from Africa was sitting on his chariot, reading a Bible. He needed some help to understand what he was reading. Philip taught him that the story was about Jesus. Let's pretend to be Philip and the man from Africa.**

### **Directions:**

1. Place two chairs next to each other in the center of the play area for a chariot.
2. Choose one child to be the man from Africa. He or she sits in the chariot and pretends to read the Bible.
3. Choose another child to be Philip. He or she runs to the chariot, points to the Bible, and asks the man from Africa, **"Do you understand?"**
4. The man from Africa says, **"Tell me, please."**
5. Philip gets in the chariot, points to the Bible, and says, **"The story is about Jesus."**
6. Continue until each child has a turn as Philip or the man from Africa.

## **GAME: JESUS LOVES YOU**

**Purpose:** Children will teach each other how to sign, "Jesus loves you."

**Supplies:** None

**After Philip told the man from Africa about the Bible story he was reading, he told him about Jesus. Let's learn how to say and sign, "Jesus loves you," then we can tell others about Jesus like Philip did.**

### **Directions:**

1. Have the children sit in a circle.
2. Practice the following motions several times:  
Jesus: Tap each middle finger one time in the center of the opposite palm.  
Loves: Place your hands over your heart.  
You: Point to another person.
3. **Now that you know how to say and sign, "Jesus loves you," let's tell each other about Jesus.**
4. Say and sign "Jesus loves you" to the child next to you.
5. That child turns to the next child in the circle and says and signs "Jesus loves you."
6. Repeat around the circle until the last child says and signs "Jesus loves you" to you.
7. Say and sign "Jesus loves you" once more as a group.



# THE WAY *continued...*

## **SNACK: TELL ME A STORY**

**Purpose:** Children will eat a snack while discussing how they can tell Bible stories to others.

**Snack Suggestion:** Any favorite snack (or a snack traditionally associated with story time in your area)

### **Directions:**

1. Serve snack and drink.
2. **Let's sing the "Blessing Song."** Sing to the tune of "Frere Jacques" or another familiar tune.  
**God our Father, God our Father. Once again, once again,  
Thank You for our blessings. Thank You for our blessings. Amen. Amen.**
3. Pray. Lead discussion below while children enjoy their snack.
  - **Who likes stories?** (Children respond.) **Let's eat a favorite snack we might enjoy while listening to a story.**
  - **The man from Africa was reading a Bible story. Who helped him understand what he was reading?** (Philip.)
  - **You can tell stories from the Bible, too! Who can you tell?** Help the children list names of family and friends.
  - **What favorite Bible story would you like to tell others?** Help children remember stories they have learned, such as: Noah and the Ark, David and Goliath, The Birth of Jesus, Feeding the 5,000, Jesus Walks on the Water, Jesus Is Risen, Jesus Goes Up to Heaven, etc.



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

## **FINAL FIVE MINUTES**

### **BIBLE MEMORY VERSE**

Gather children in a circle sitting or standing and practice the words and motions.

**"Not by might,  
nor by power,  
but by My Spirit,'**

(might) Push fists up and forward in a forceful manner.

(power) Push fists up and forward in a forceful manner.

(Spirit) On each hand, touch the tip of the pointer finger to the tip of the thumb. Hands begin at center of the chest, then move apart in a back and forth wavy motion.

**says the Lord Almighty."**

(Lord) Make "L" shape with right index finger and thumb. Move "L" from left shoulder to right hip as a royal sash.

**Zechariah 4:6b**

Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.

### **PRAY**

**Let's pray together.** Say a closing prayer with the children.

### **PLAY**

Allow children to play with selected toys or centers or choose a book to read to them.

### **DISMISSAL**

Have children take home their coloring page, craft, and a copy of the Ponder, Pray & Play for 2-3's.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

## **GOT TIME?**

### **SAY & DO: ACTS 8:27-31, 34-35**

**Purpose:** This pantomime version of the Bible Story helps children remember the story details.

**Supplies:** None

**Directions:** With each phrase, the teacher says the phrase and leads the children in doing the hand motions.

- **Philip was walking down the road one day,** (Walk in place.)
- **A man from Africa he did see.** (Cup hands around eyes like binoculars.)
- **Philip ran to the man as fast as he could,** (Run in place.)
- **For the Bible he was trying to read.** (Hold hands open like a book.)
  
- **Philip asked, "Do you understand this?"** (Palms up, as if asking a question.)
- **"Tell me, please!" said the man.** (Clasp hands, as if begging.)
- **Philip told him all about Jesus** (Point index finger, like teaching.)
- **When they read the Bible story again!** (Hold hands open, like a book.)



### **BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES**

"Not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit," says the Lord Almighty." Zechariah 4:6b

### **GAME: BIBLE MEMORY VERSE HOP**

**Purpose:** To help children memorize and review the Unit 1 Bible Memory Verses.

**Supplies:** None

**After He promised to send the Holy Spirit, Jesus was taken up through the clouds. Let's pretend we are above the clouds and say each Bible Memory Verse word as we hop from cloud to cloud.**

**Directions:**

1. Children line up behind you.
2. As you say each word from the Bible Memory Verse, hop around the room.
3. If you have time, use other motions while saying the verse such as taking big steps, taking baby steps, clapping, or skipping.

# GOT TIME? *continued...*

## **GAME: CLOSE WITH HIM**

**Purpose:** Children learn the meaning of the promise in Joel 2:28a.

**Supplies:** Large blanket

**Jesus promised to send a special helper, the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is God. Let's imagine what that might be like by imagining this blanket is the Holy Spirit.**

### **Directions:**

1. Have the children stand close together and wrap the blanket around them.
2. **God wants you to know that He is as close to you as this blanket. That's why He gives you His Spirit—so you can be close with Him.**
3. **The Holy Spirit will help us in everything we say and do. That's why our Bible Memory Verse says, "Not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit," says the Lord Almighty." Can we say it together?** Practice the Bible Memory Verse with the children. You may choose to drop the blanket and have them say the Bible Memory Verse with the motions.



## **STORY TIME**

Gather the children and read a favorite story. This can be a Bible story, a chapter from *The Adventures of Delbert & Lello*, or a story about telling others about Jesus.

### **PONDER, PRAY & PLAY**

Unit 1, Lesson 5: Philip and the Ethiopian

**PONDER!** God led Philip to tell the man from Africa about Jesus (Acts 8:27-31, 34-35). What is your favorite Bible story? Can you tell it to others?

**PRAY!** Pray this prayer each day this week: "Lord Jesus, we love to learn stories from the Bible. Help us tell others about You. Amen."

**PLAY!** Say and sign "Jesus loves you." Tap one middle finger at a time in each palm and say, "Jesus." Hug your hands over your heart and say, "loves." Point to another person and say, "you!"

#### **BIBLE MEMORY VERSE**

**"Not by might,  
nor by power,  
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**says the Lord Almighty."**

**Zechariah 4:6b**

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Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.